MARVEL

JEPH LOEB TIM SALE

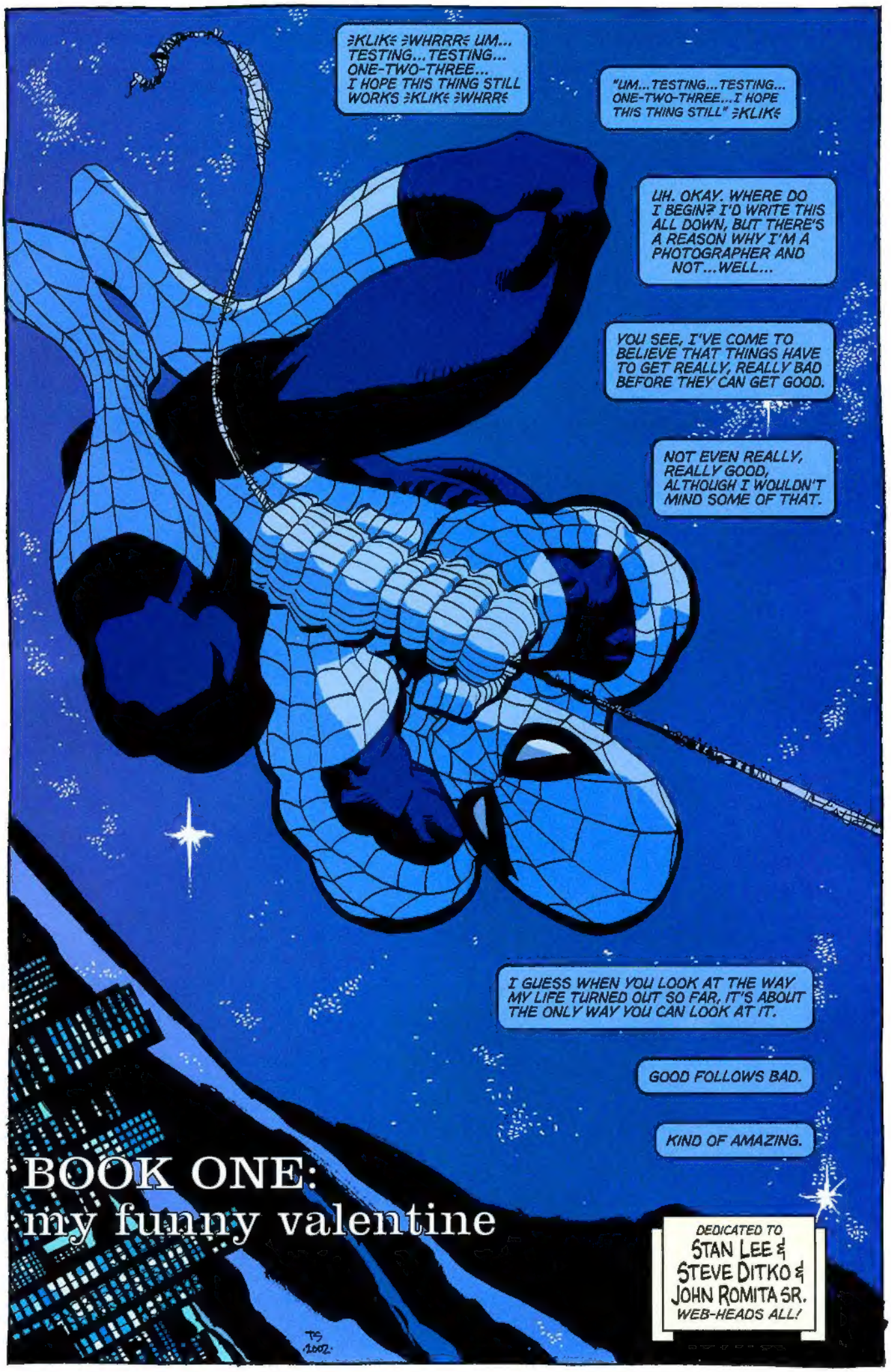
SPIDER-MAN®: BLUE

a Behry Scan

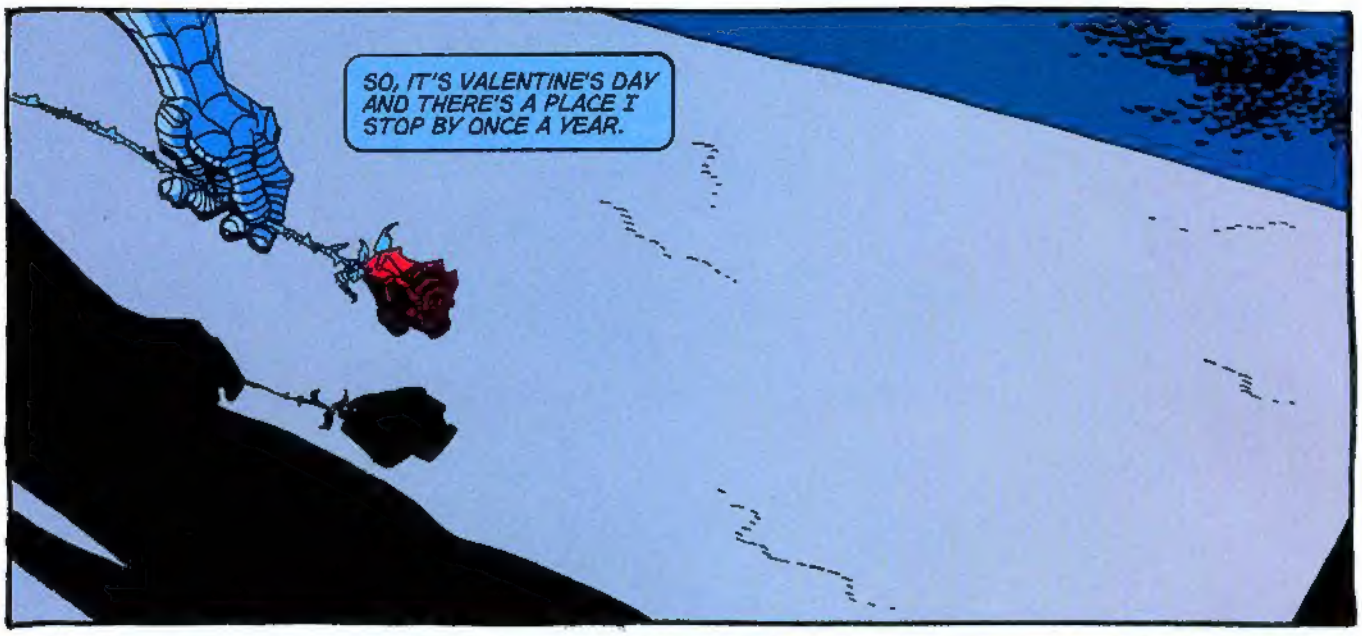
spider-man: BLUE

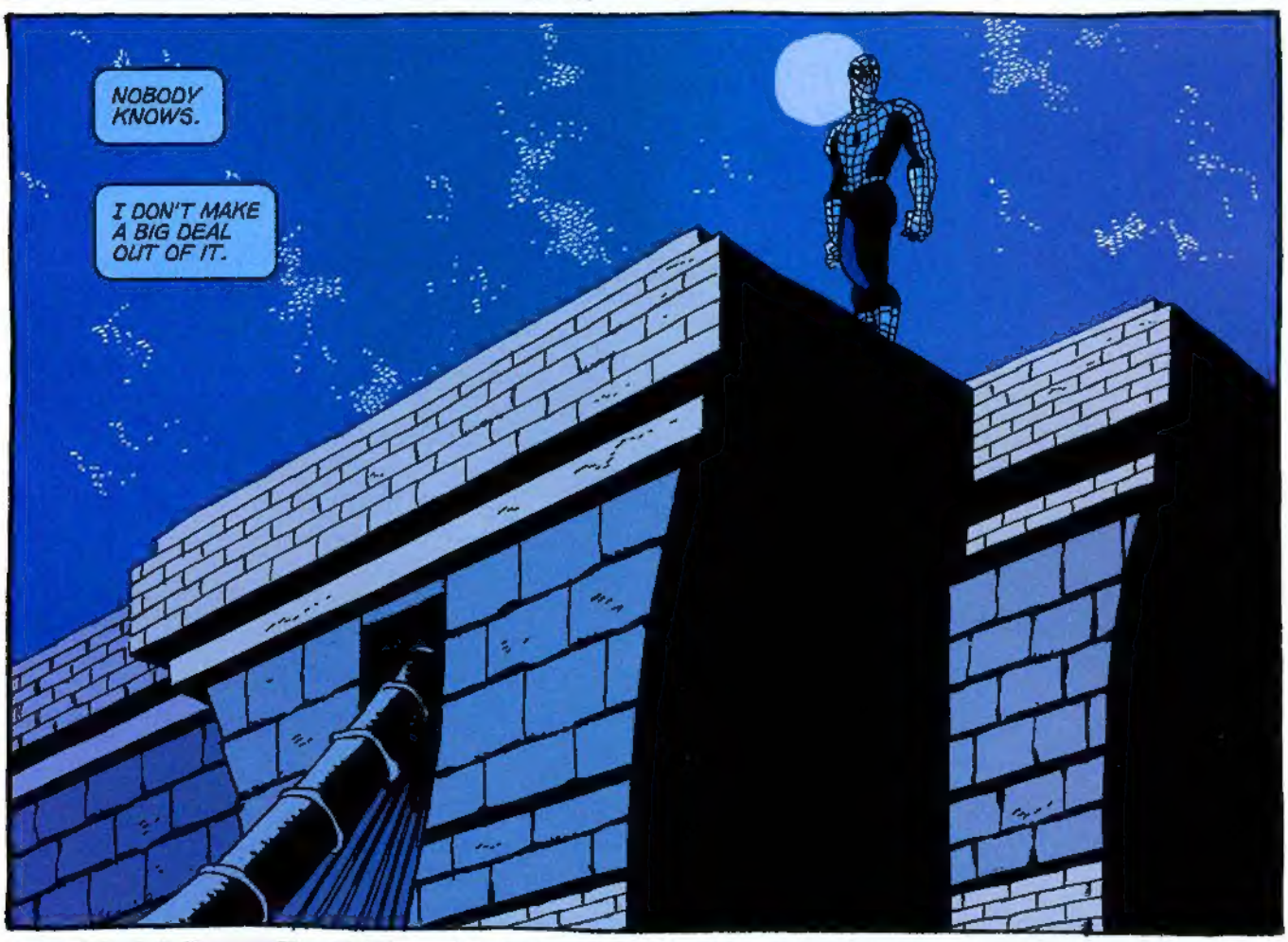
with RICHARD STARKINGS & COMICRAFT'S WES ABBOTT / STEVE BUCCELLATO / COMICRAFT'S JG ROSHELL

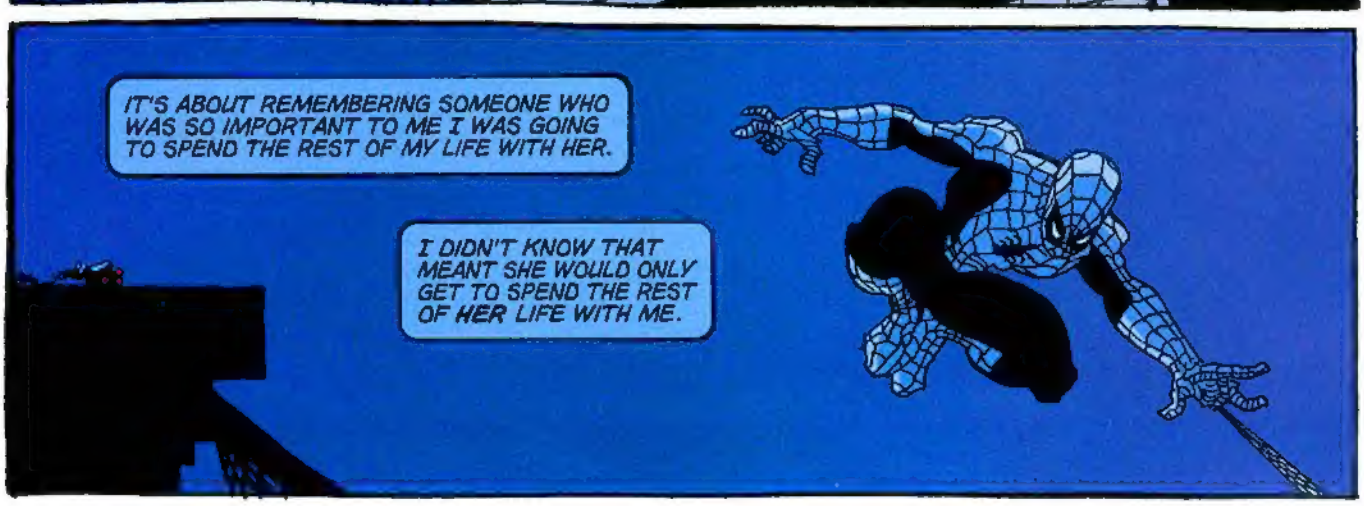
bronwyn taggart/nanci dakesian
jeff youngquist/jennifer grünwald/jeof vita
joe quesada/dan buckley

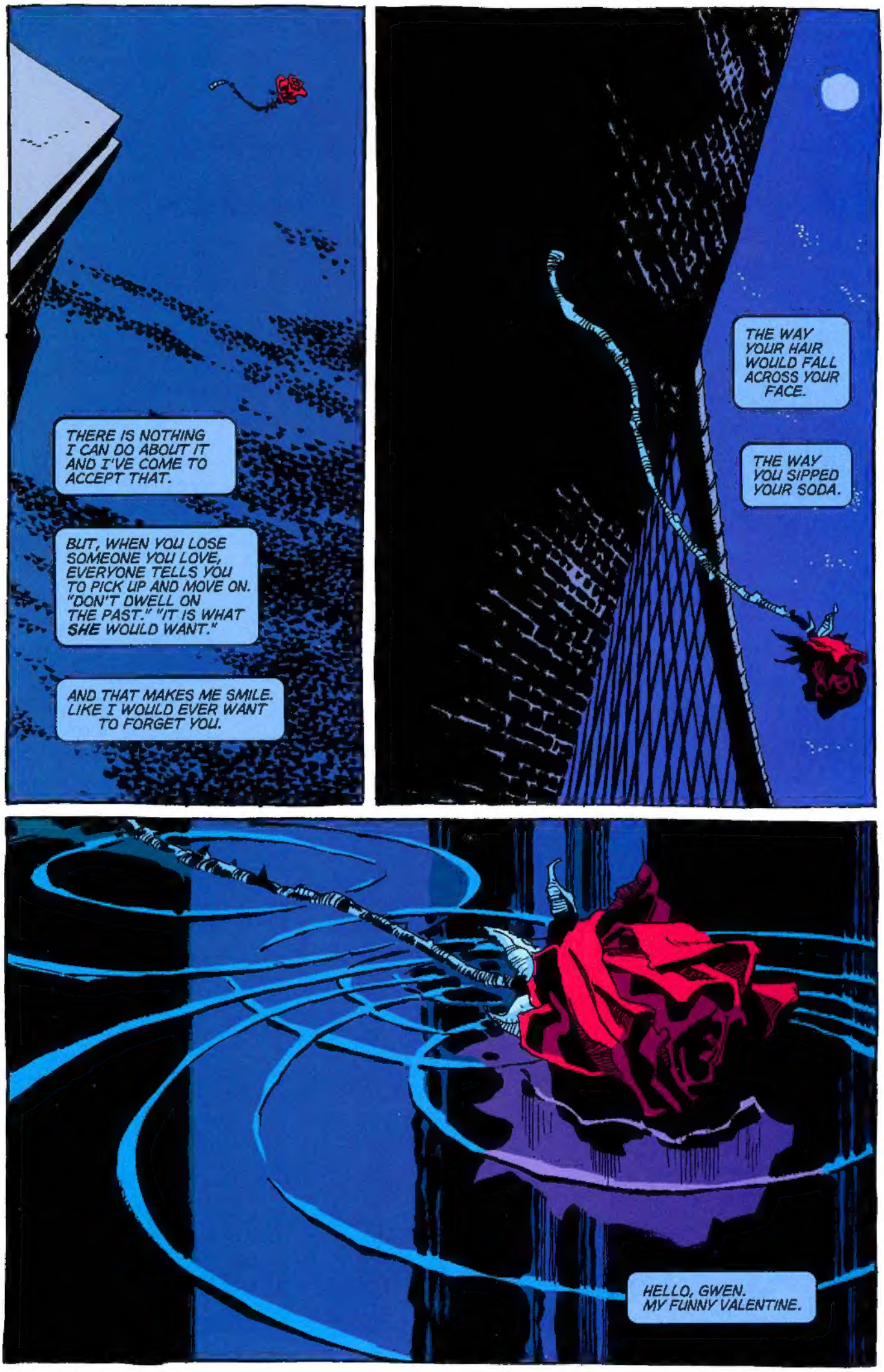

⋹KLIK⋺ ⋹WHRRR⋺ UM... TESTING...TESTING... ONE-TWO-THREE... I HOPE THIS THING STILL WORKS ⋹KLIK⋺ ⋹WHRR⋺
"UM...TESTING...TESTING... ONE-TWO-THREE...I HOPE THIS THING STILL" ⋹KLIK⋺
UH. OKAY. WHERE DO I BEGIN? I'D WRITE THIS ALL DOWN, BUT THERE'S A REASON WHY I'M A PHOTOGRAPHER AND NOT...WELL...
YOU SEE, I'VE COME TO BELIEVE THAT THINGS HAVE TO GET REALLY, REALLY BAD BEFORE THEY CAN GET GOOD.
NOT EVEN REALLY, REALLY GOOD, ALTHOUGH I WOULDN'T MIND SOME OF THAT.
I GUESS WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE WAY MY LIFE TURNED OUT SO FAR, IT'S ABOUT THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN LOOK AT IT.
GOOD FOLLOWS BAD.
KIND OF AMAZING.
BOOK ONE:
my funny valentine
DEDICATED TO
STAN LEE &
STEVE DITKO &
JOHN ROMITA SR.
WEB-HEADS ALL!
TS
2002

IT'S VALENTINE'S DAY AND I DON'T FEEL MUCH LIKE BEING ANYBODY'S VALENTINE, BUT, AS ODD AS IT SEEMS, I FIND MYSELF WANTING TO TALK TO YOU.
I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME. HOW YOU SENT ME A VALENTINE THAT WASN'T SIGNED. YOU JUST DREW IN ONE OF THOSE HAPPY FACES.
I ASKED ONCE WHY YOU SENT ME ALL THOSE CARDS AND YOU TOLD ME YOU HAD TO GET MY ATTENTION SOMEHOW.
WHERE COULD MY HEAD HAVE BEEN THAT I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION TO YOU?
WHAT WAS IT THAT MY UNCLE BEN USED TO SAY?
"YOUTH IS WASTED ON THE WRONG PEOPLE."
I KNOW YOU'LL NEVER HEAR THIS, BUT SOMEDAY... THERE MAY BE SOMEONE WHO SHOULD KNOW ABOUT YOU...US.
YOUR NAME WAS GWEN STACY. MINE IS PETER PARKER.
THIS IS THE STORY OF HOW WE FELL IN LOVE.
OR, MORE APPROPRIATELY, HOW WE ALMOST DIDN'T FALL IN LOVE.

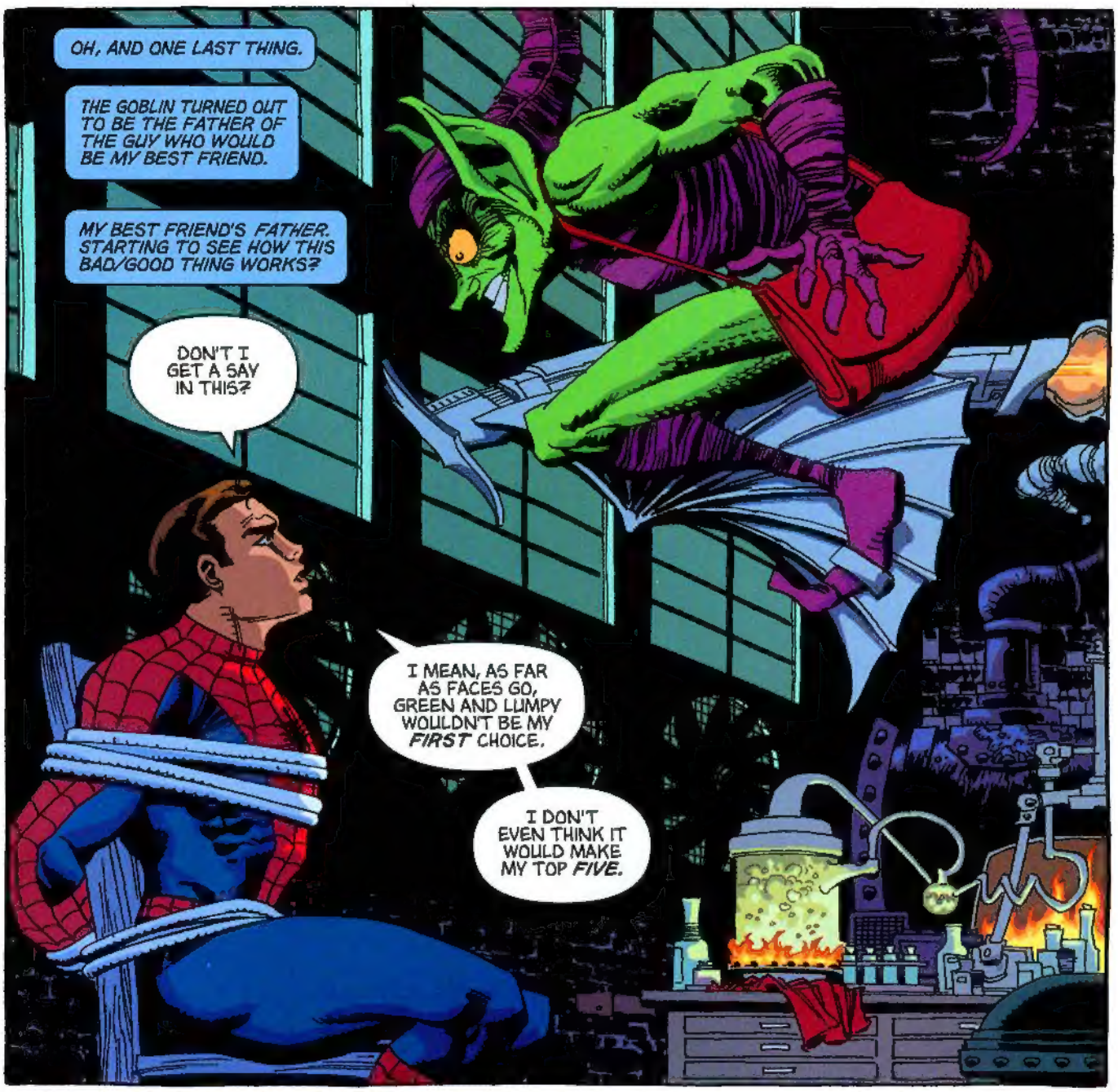

SO, IT'S VALENTINE'S DAY AND THERE'S A PLACE I STOP BY ONCE A YEAR.

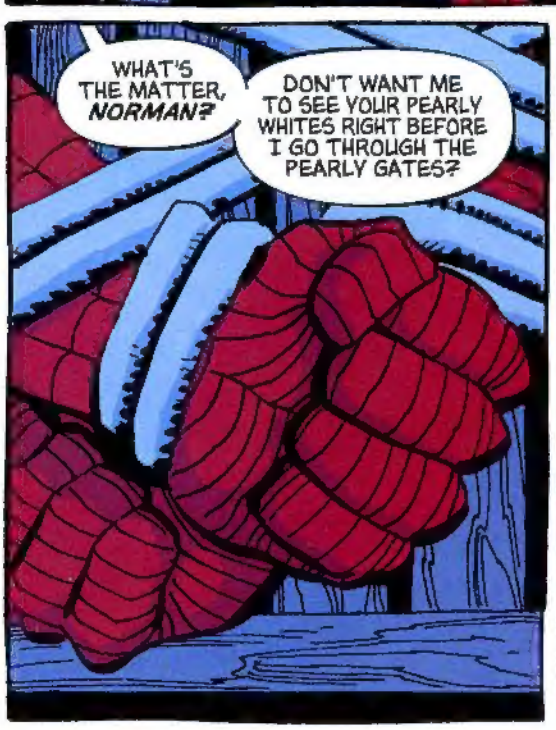

NOBODY KNOWS.
I DON'T MAKE A BIG DEAL OUT OF IT.


IT'S ABOUT REMEMBERING SOMEONE WHO WAS SO IMPORTANT TO ME I WAS GOING TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE WITH HER.
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT MEANT SHE WOULD ONLY GET TO SPEND THE REST OF HER LIFE WITH ME.

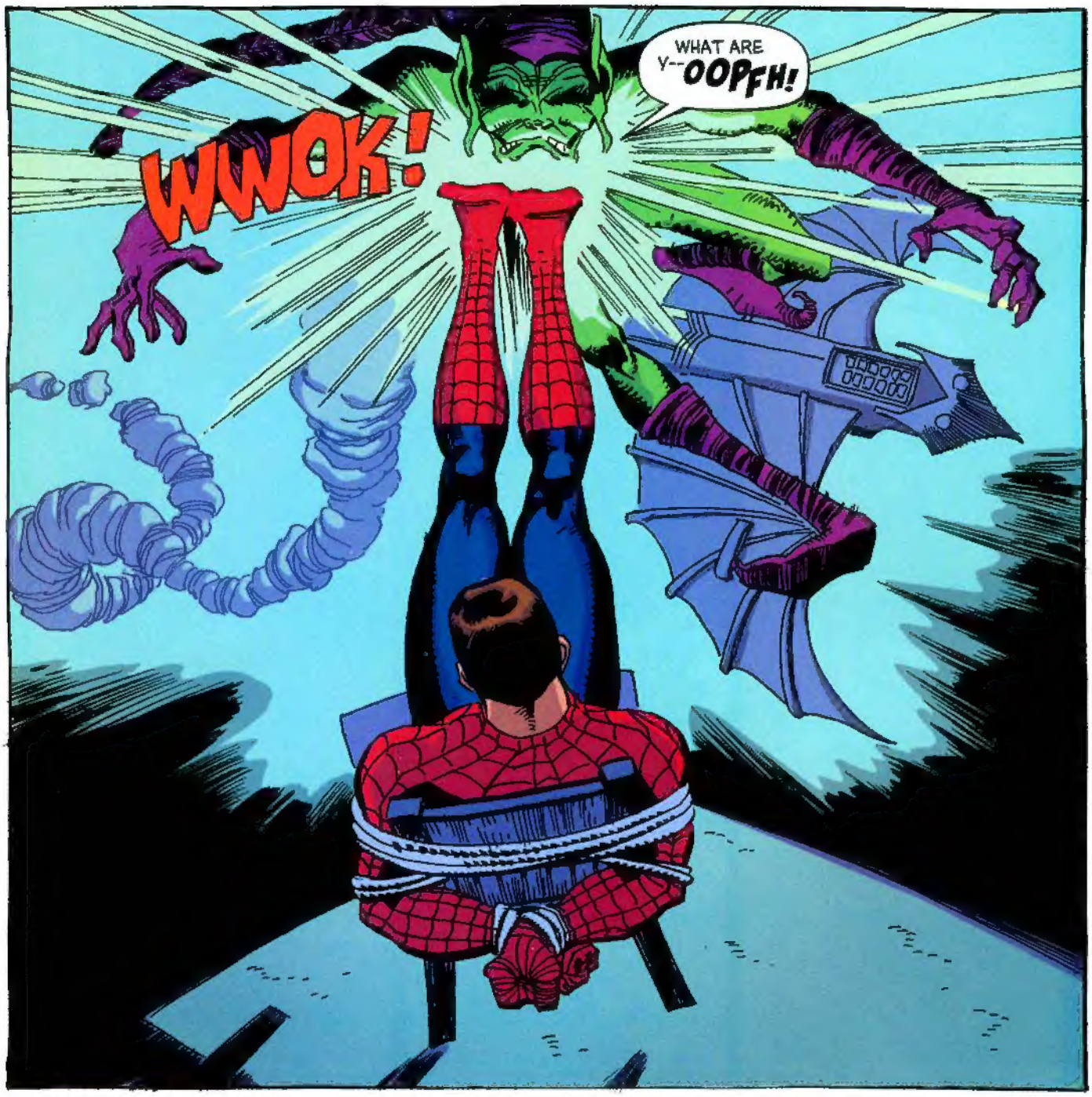

THERE IS NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT AND I'VE COME TO ACCEPT THAT.
BUT, WHEN YOU LOSE SOMEONE YOU LOVE, EVERYONE TELLS YOU TO PICK UP AND MOVE ON. "DON'T DWELL ON THE PAST." "IT IS WHAT SHE WOULD WANT."
AND THAT MAKES ME SMILE. LIKE I WOULD EVER WANT TO FORGET YOU.
THE WAY YOUR HAIR WOULD FALL ACROSS YOUR FACE.
THE WAY YOU SIPPED YOUR SODA.
HELLO, GWEN. MY FUNNY VALENTINE.

BUT, LIKE I SAID, BEFORE SOMETHING GOOD COULD HAPPEN...
...SOMETHING REALLY, REALLY BAD HAD TO HAPPEN...
TAKE A LONG LOOK, PARKER.
NOW, WHEN I SAY "BAD," I'M NOT TALKING "OVERDRAWN AT THE BANK" BAD.
I'M TALKING "SUPER-VILLAIN (IN THIS CASE IT WAS THE GREEN GOBLIN) KNOWS YOUR SECRET IDENTITY, HAS YOU HELD HOSTAGE, INTENDS TO KILL YOU, AND THEN EVERYONE IN YOUR FAMILY" BAD.
BECAUSE THIS IS THE LAST FACE YOU ARE EVER GOING TO SEE.
T9 2001

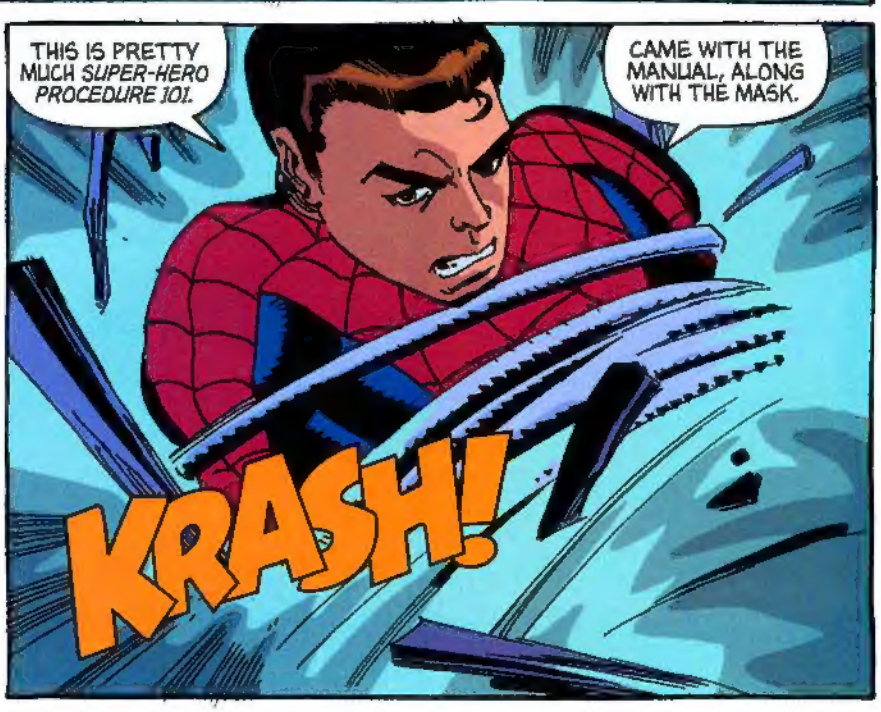

OH, AND ONE LAST THING.
THE GOBLIN TURNED OUT TO BE THE FATHER OF THE GUY WHO WOULD BE MY BEST FRIEND.
MY BEST FRIEND'S FATHER. STARTING TO SEE HOW THIS BAD/GOOD THING WORKS?
DON'T I GET A SAY IN THIS?
I MEAN, AS FAR AS FACES GO, GREEN AND LUMPY WOULDN'T BE MY FIRST CHOICE.
I DON'T EVEN THINK IT WOULD MAKE MY TOP FIVE.


WHAT'S THE MATTER, NORMAN?
DON'T WANT ME TO SEE YOUR PEARLY WHITES RIGHT BEFORE I GO THROUGH THE PEARLY GATES?

YOU THINK I'M AFRAID TO FACE YOU? ME?
ACTUALLY, I WAS BETTING ON TOO UGLY TO FACE ME.
BUT IF YOU WANT TO GO WITH "AFRAID," I CAN WORK WITH THAT, TOO.

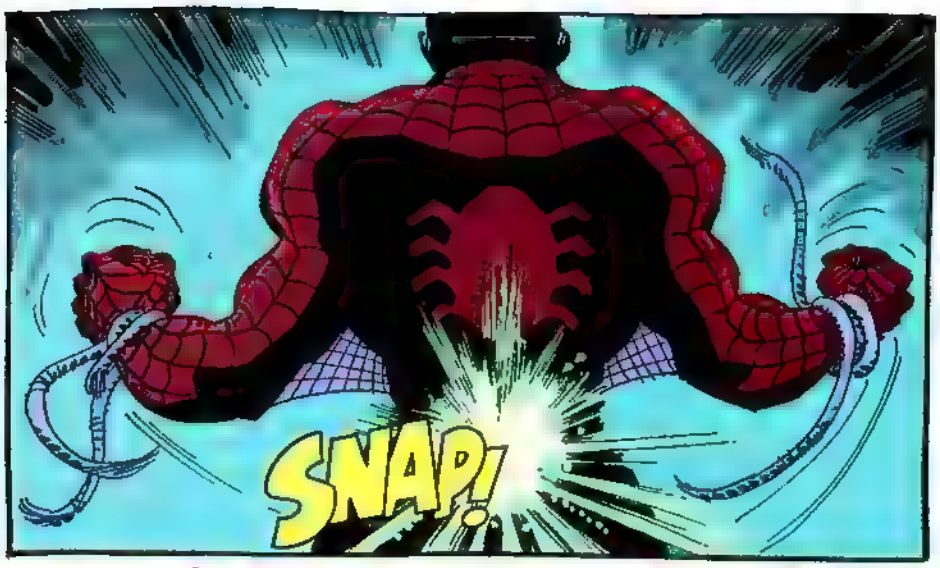

WHAT ARE Y--OOPFH!
WWOK!

WHAT AM I DOING?
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?


THIS IS PRETTY MUCH *SUPER-HERO PROCEDURE 101.*
CAME WITH THE MANUAL, ALONG WITH THE MASK.
KRASH!

OH, THAT'S *RIGHT*, I *FORGOT*. AS A SUPER-*VILLAIN* YOU DON'T GET THE SAME HANDBOOK THAT *WE* GET.
REST ASSURED, *PARKER*, THE *ONLY* REASON YOU COULD HAVE BROKEN FREE WAS BECAUSE I WANTED IT SO.

WELL, *"REST ASSURED," NORMAN* --
THWIPP!
-- I DON'T GIVE A DAMN!
SPLAK



LET'S FINISH THIS ONCE AND FOR ALL!

AT THE TIME, I WASN'T QUITE SURE WHAT I MEANT. I JUST KNEW ONLY ONE OF US WAS WALKING OUT OF THAT WAREHOUSE.

AND IT WAS GOING TO BE ME!

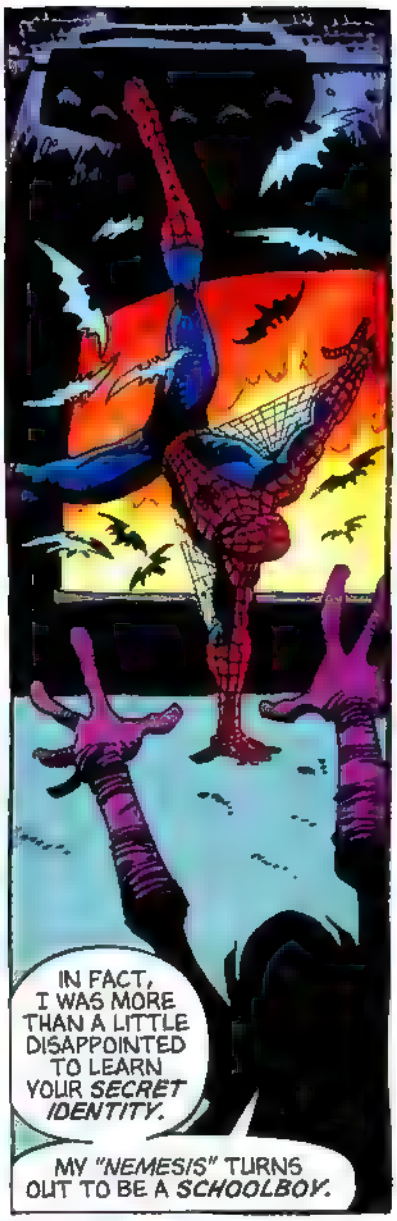
SPLUNK
CURSED WEBBING!
HEY, HAVEN'T YOU HEARD?
"CATCHES THIEVES, JUST LIKE FLIES!"
SPLUNK

AND WHY IS IT ALWAYS REFERRED TO AS "CURSED WEBBING?"
IT SEEMS TO ME TO BE "ATTRACTIVE" WEBBING.
WHAM
OR EVEN "INVENTIVE" WEBBING.

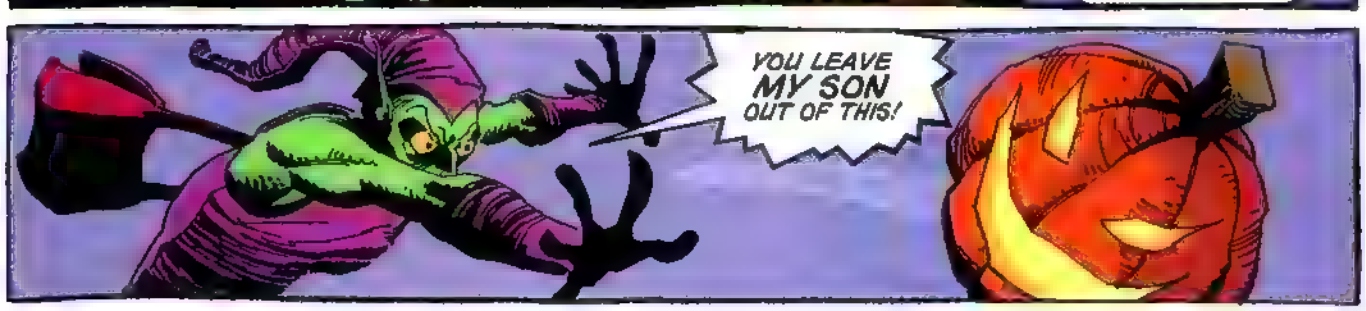
WE SPIDERS TAKE OUR WEBBING PERSONALLY.
BAM
YOU'RE GOING TO RESPECT THE WEBBING, GOBBY, JUST LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO RESPECT --

THWUP
THWUP
-- ME --
UNGH!
BDIF!
NEVER!

YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A *PUNK KID.*
I HAVE TO ADMIT -- I WAS HITTING HIM WITH EVERYTHING I HAD AND HE JUST WASN'T GOING TO FOLD.


IN FACT, I WAS MORE THAN A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN YOUR *SECRET IDENTITY.*
MY *"NEMESIS"* TURNS OUT TO BE A *SCHOOLBOY.*

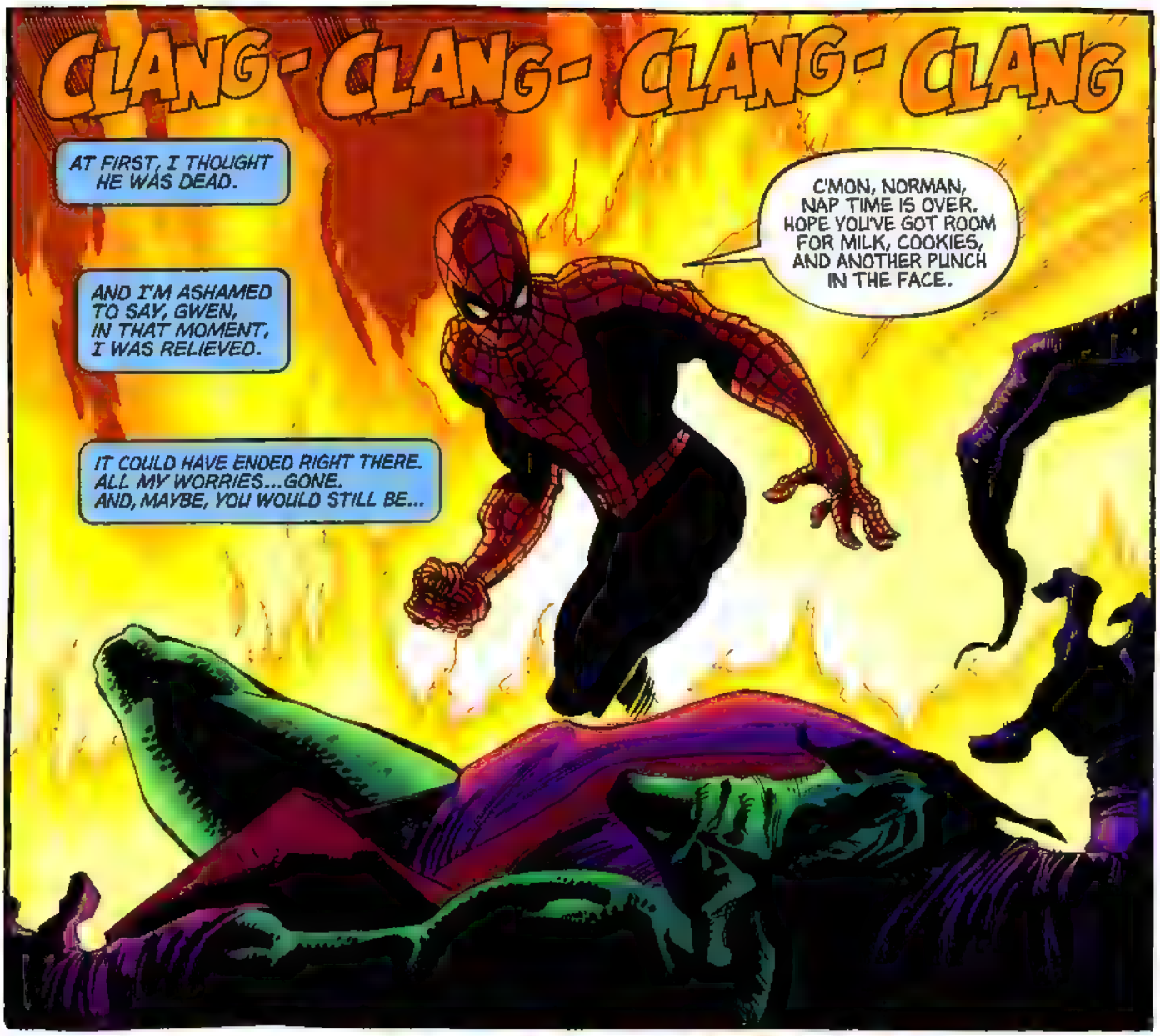
A DISAPPOINTMENT JUST LIKE MY *SON.*
A PATHETIC, SNIVELING *LOSER* WHO WILL NEVER MAKE *ANYTHING* OUT OF HIMSELF.
NOW, WHAT'DYA HAVE TO GO AND BRING *HARRY* INTO THIS, NORMAN?
I DON'T EVEN *LIKE* THE GUY ALL THAT MUCH!


YOU LEAVE MY SON OUT OF THIS!

THWIP!
WE HAVING A LITTLE *PRONOUN* PROBLEM HERE, NORMAN? *YOU* BROUGHT HARRY UP!

BUT, YOU KNOW THE OLD SAYING: *"THE ACORN DOESN'T FALL FAR FROM THE TREE."*
YOU KNOW AN AWFUL LOT ABOUT *ACORNS,* DON'TCHA, NORMAN?
I MEAN, YOU'RE BOTH PLAIN *NUTS!*

WHAROOM


CLANG - CLANG - CLANG - CLANG
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD.
AND I'M ASHAMED TO SAY, GWEN, IN THAT MOMENT, I WAS RELIEVED.
IT COULD HAVE ENDED RIGHT THERE. ALL MY WORRIES...GONE. AND, MAYBE, YOU WOULD STILL BE...
C'MON, NORMAN, NAP TIME IS OVER. HOPE YOU'VE GOT ROOM FOR MILK, COOKIES, AND ANOTHER PUNCH IN THE FACE.

KAFF! CAN'T BREATHE —
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SO EASY. IF I JUST LEFT HIM THERE. THE SMOKE. THE FIRE. BY THE TIME ANYONE FOUND HIM...

KAFF! WHAT...WHAT ARE THESE CLOTHES...?
...HAVE...HAVE TO GET HOME... HARRY WILL BE WORRIED...
I WANTED TO TELL MYSELF HE WAS LYING. HE WAS FAKING HIS MEMORY LOSS.
BUT, THERE WAS SOMETHING IN HIS VOICE. HIS CONCERN ABOUT HARRY.
IT REMINDED ME OF MY AUNT MAY.

I DIDN'T NEED TO HAVE MY "SPIDER-SENSE" TO KNOW HE WAS BEING GENUINE.
NEW YORK CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT!
IS ANYONE IN THERE?!

THIS MAN NEEDS HELP!
EVEN THEN, I THINK I KNEW THAT WAS THE UNDERSTATEMENT OF THE YEAR.

WAIT A SECOND! YOU CAN'T JUST RUN AWAY!
I'M NOT RUNNING. I'M SWINGING!
BUT... WHAT WENT ON HERE?! WHO IS THIS GUY?
THAT'S NORMAN OSBORN. HE -- HE'S A HERO. HE HELPED STOP THE GREEN GOBLIN.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GOBLIN?

DEAD.
THE GREEN GOBLIN IS DEAD.

AND WE'RE SUPPOSED TO TAKE THAT MANIAC WALL-CRAWLER'S WORD THAT A MAN DIED AND HE DIDN'T HAVE A THING TO DO WITH IT.

MISTER JAMESON, IF YOU DON'T WANT THE PHOTOGRAPHS, I'M SURE THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER PLACES I CAN --

-- WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT NOT WANTING THE PHOTOGRAPHS, PARKER?

YOU KIDS TODAY. YOU PLAY THAT ROCK AND ROLL MUSIC SO LOUD YOU CAN'T HEAR A THING WHEN A PERSON IS TALKING TO YOU.

J. JONAH JAMESON

THEN, ABOUT GETTING PAID, SIR --

-- YOU GET PAID LIKE ANY OTHER FREELANCER, PARKER. TWO WEEKS AFTER YOU VOUCHER FROM THAT GIVEN FRIDAY.

WHAT COULD BE MORE FAIR THAN THAT?

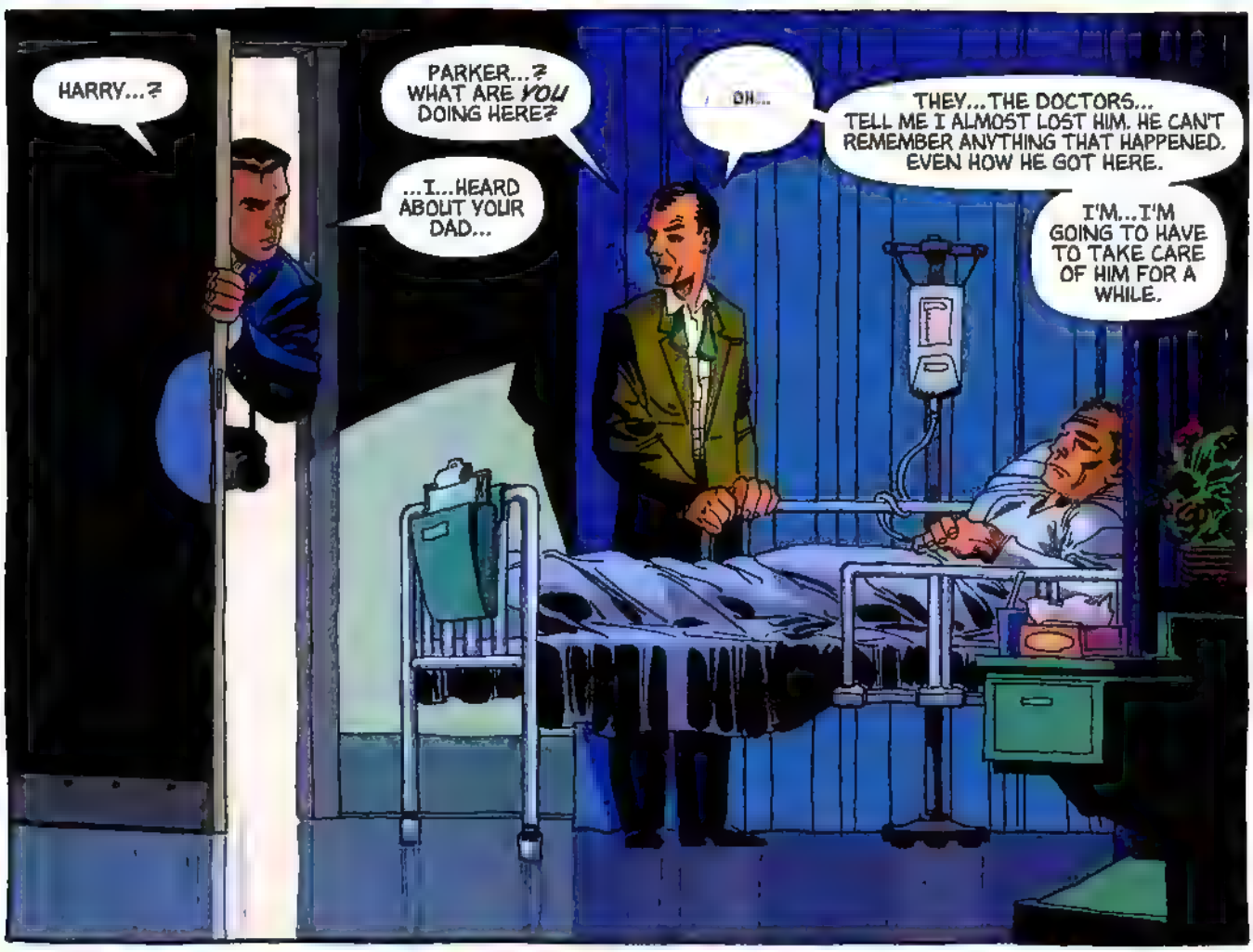
I KNOW THAT'S THE *USUAL* WAY, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO BUY AND I COULD USE --
-- DO I LOOK LIKE A SAVINGS AND LOAN? YOU GET PAID *JUST* LIKE ANY OTHER --
JONAH!
HELLO, PETER.

JONAH, IF YOU WANT TO RUN WITH THIS *GOBLIN STORY* ON THE FRONT PAGE --
-- I *DO*. AND IF I COULD FIGURE OUT HOW TO GO WITH A BANNER HEADLINE *SPIDER-MAN: MURDERER*, I'D RUN THAT, TOO!
WELL, WE JUST GOT A TIP THAT *NORMAN OSBORN* HAS BEEN MOVED TO *MEMORIAL HOSPITAL*.
COULD BE A PHOTO-OP THAT --
-- GOOD. GET *SHELDON* ON IT.
PHIL IS COVERING THE *TONY STARK* TRIAL.
I COULD DO IT.

MISTER OSBORN IS THE FATHER OF ONE OF MY FRIENDS AT SCHOOL --
-- SORT OF --
AND I COULD GET IN THERE, NO PROBLEM.
I THINK PETER CAN HANDLE IT, J.J.
BUT IF I *DO*, COULD I GET PAID RIGHT AWAY?
YOU JUST GET ME THAT PHOTOGRAPH, PARKER.

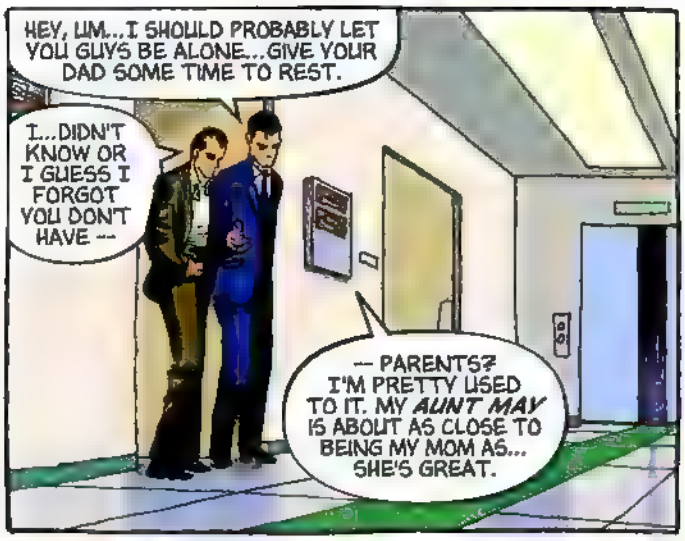
I'M ON IT, MISTER JAMESON!
I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW *THAT* INSTILLS ME WITH CONFIDENCE.
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS RIDE HIM, JONAH? PETER'S A GOOD KID.
"GOOD KID." *THERE'S* AN OXYMORON IF I EVER HEARD ONE!
J. JONAH JAMESON. HOW CAN YOU NOT LOVE THAT GUY...?

NOW, I'M NOT ENTIRELY SURE WHY I SO READILY VOLUNTEERED FOR THE JOB.
SURE, I KNEW HARRY, BUT HE WAS HARDLY WHAT I WOULD CALL A "FRIEND."
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
MAYBE, IT WAS JUST THAT I COULDN'T RESIST MAKING SURE THAT WHEN NORMAN WOKE UP AND SAW MY FACE, THE NIGHTMARE WAS REALLY OVER.


HARRY...?
PARKER...? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
...I...HEARD ABOUT YOUR DAD...
OH...
THEY...THE DOCTORS... TELL ME I ALMOST LOST HIM. HE CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING THAT HAPPENED. EVEN HOW HE GOT HERE.
I'M...I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF HIM FOR A WHILE.

I GUESS THIS IS WHAT THEY MEAN WHEN THEY SAY THE SON BECOMES THE FATHER AND FATHER BECOMES...
...THE SON.

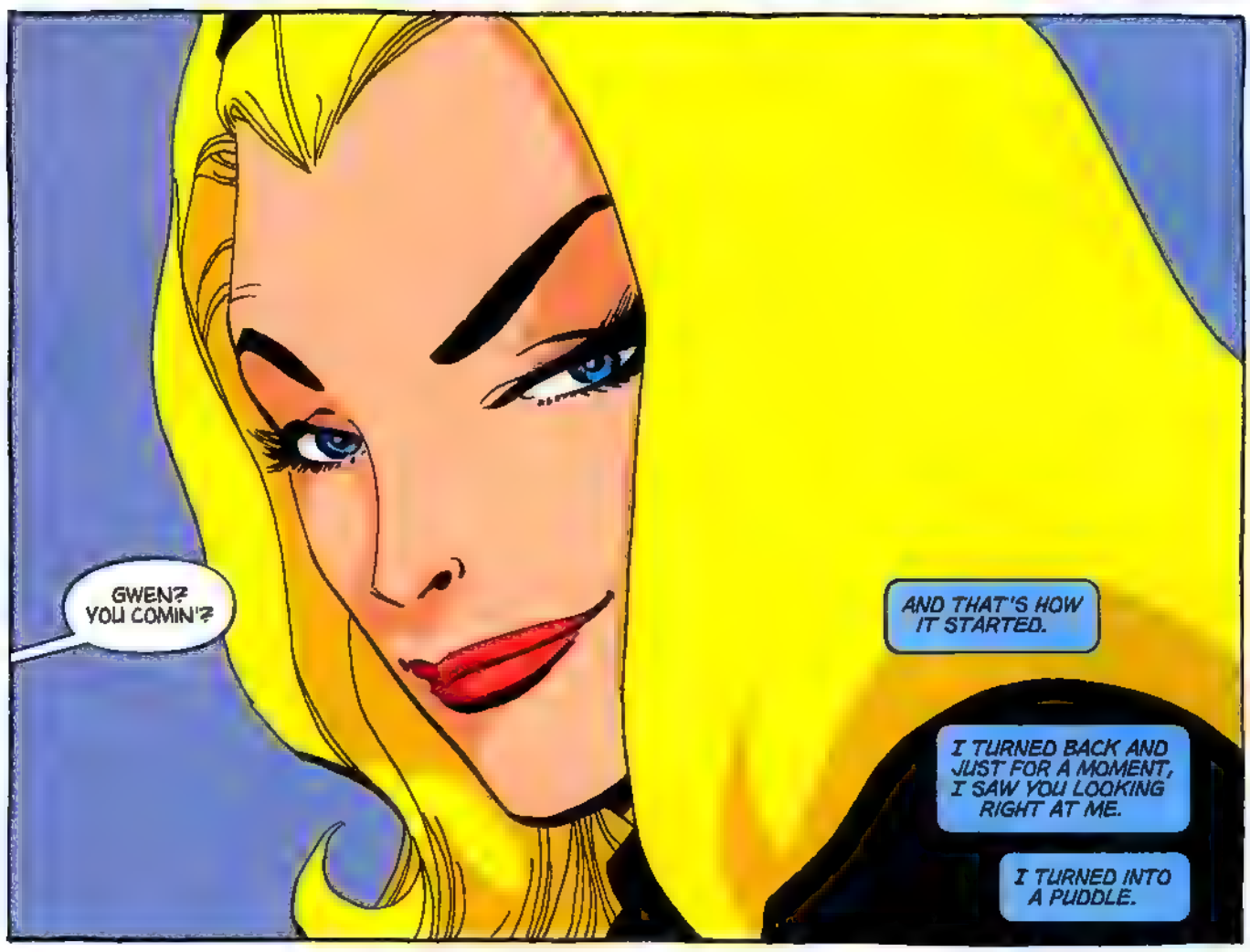
YOU'LL WORK IT OUT, HARRY.
I CAN ONLY TELL YOU THAT GROWING UP WITHOUT A DAD --
-- ANYTHING YOU'VE GOT TO DO IS WORTH IT.


HEY, LIM...I SHOULD PROBABLY LET YOU GUYS BE ALONE...GIVE YOUR DAD SOME TIME TO REST.
I...DIDN'T KNOW OR I GUESS I FORGOT YOU DON'T HAVE --
-- PARENTS? I'M PRETTY USED TO IT. MY AUNT MAY IS ABOUT AS CLOSE TO BEING MY MOM AS... SHE'S GREAT.

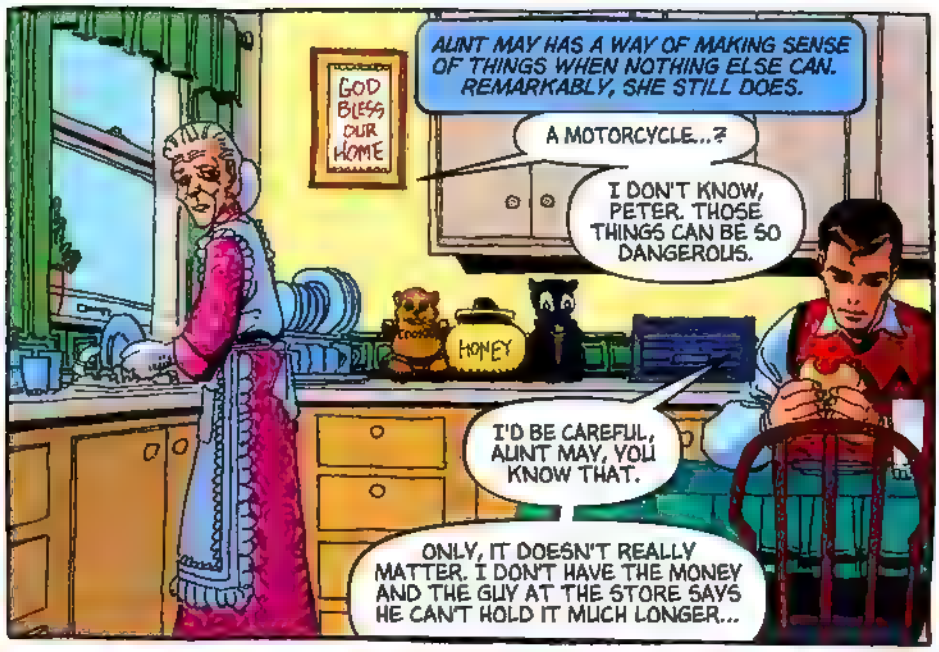
LISTEN, I KNOW WE DON'T HANG AROUND MUCH, BUT COMING HERE --
-- THAT MEANS A LOT, PETE.
NO SWEAT. WHAT'RE FRIENDS FOR?

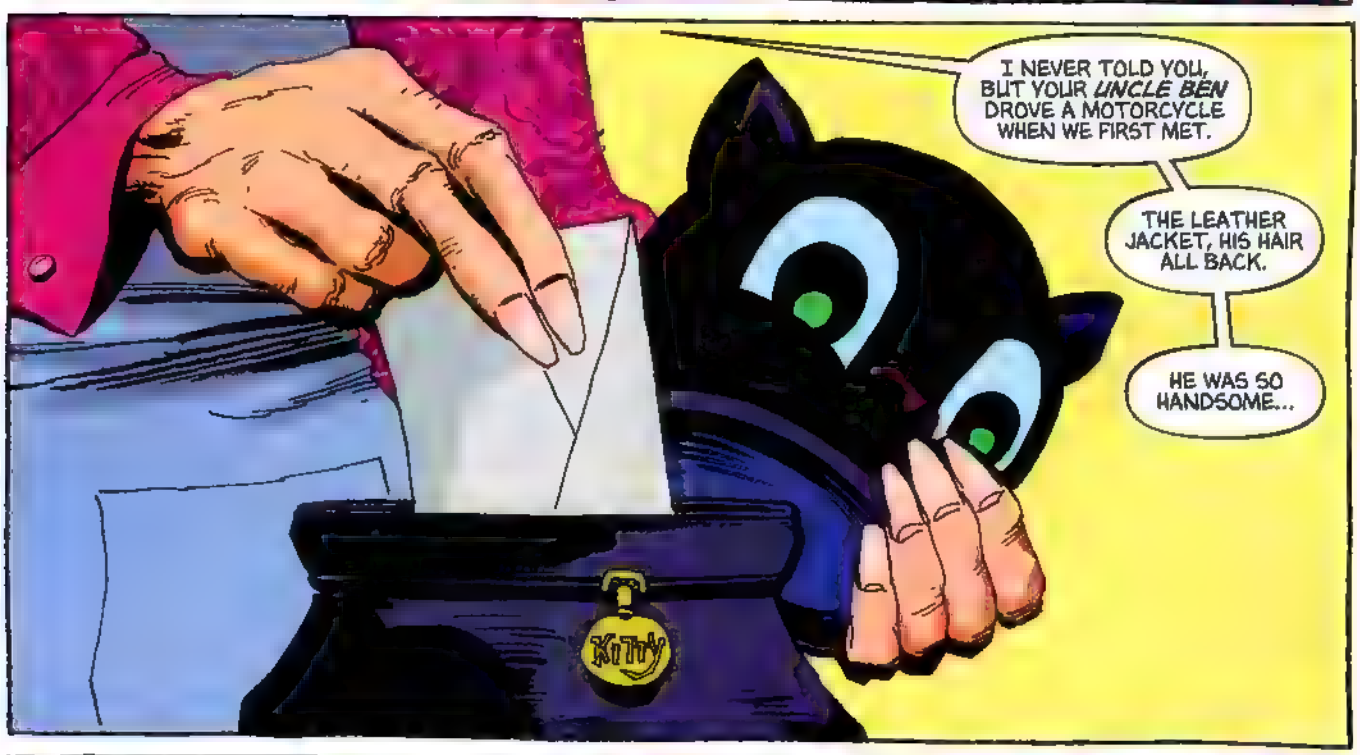
HEY, HARRY! WHAT'DYA HEAR, WHAT'DYA SAY?

WAS THAT PARKER YOU WERE WITH?
HE STOPPED BY TO VISIT.
WHY?!
LAY OFF, FLASH. TURNS OUT PETE'S AN OKAY GUY.


GWEN? YOU COMIN'?
AND THAT'S HOW IT STARTED.
I TURNED BACK AND JUST FOR A MOMENT, I SAW YOU LOOKING RIGHT AT ME.
I TURNED INTO A PUDDLE.

NO MATTER WHAT ELSE WAS HAPPENING, I KNEW I COULD ALWAYS COME HOME.


AUNT MAY HAS A WAY OF MAKING SENSE OF THINGS WHEN NOTHING ELSE CAN. REMARKABLY, SHE STILL DOES.
GOD BLESS OUR HOME
A MOTORCYCLE...?
I DON'T KNOW, PETER. THOSE THINGS CAN BE SO DANGEROUS.
HONEY
I'D BE CAREFUL, AUNT MAY, YOU KNOW THAT.
ONLY, IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER. I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY AND THE GUY AT THE STORE SAYS HE CAN'T HOLD IT MUCH LONGER...

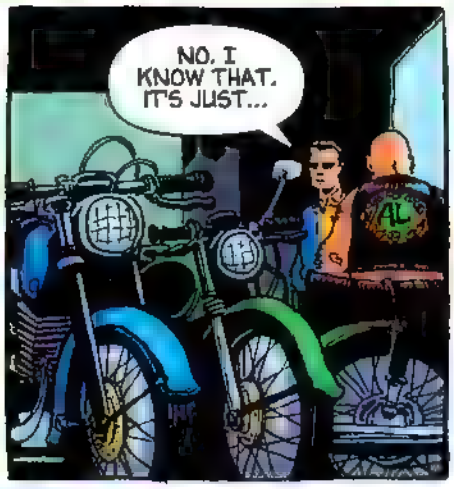

I NEVER TOLD YOU, BUT YOUR UNCLE BEN DROVE A MOTORCYCLE WHEN WE FIRST MET.
THE LEATHER JACKET, HIS HAIR ALL BACK.
HE WAS SO HANDSOME...
Kitty

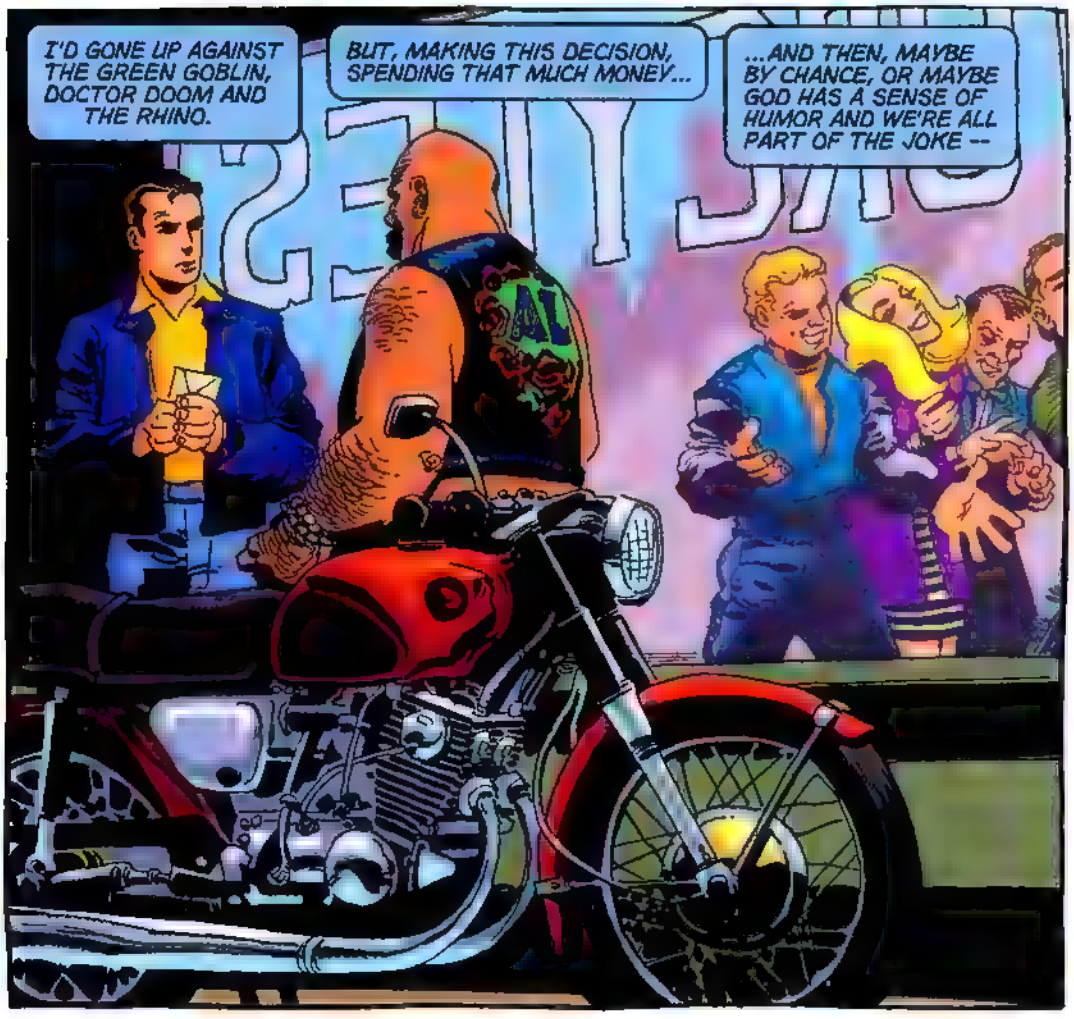
BEN AND I ALWAYS KNEW SOMEDAY YOU'D WANT A CAR.
NOT A NEW ONE, BUT SOMETHING TO... "GET YOU AROUND."
BUT, IF THIS MONEY WE SAVED GOES TOWARDS A MOTORCYCLE --
-- AND THAT MAKES YOU HAPPY --
-- I'M SURE BEN WON'T MIND US BENDING THE RULES A BIT.

THANKS, AUNT MAY.
ONLY THING IS, I DON'T WANT TO CATCH YOU POPPING WHEELIES UP AND DOWN THE WEST SIDE HIGHWAY.
OH, PETER...

BIG AL'S
MOTORCYCLE
SHOP
LEATHER · ACCESSORIES · SERVICE
I'LL NEVER KNOW HOW MY UNCLE BEN KNEW THAT AUNT MAY WAS THE ONLY ONE FOR HIM --
-- BUT SHE WAS, IS, AND ALWAYS WILL BE ONE IN A MILLION.

MOTORCYCLES ARE LIKE WOMEN, SON.
YOU'VE BEEN COMING IN HERE FOR MONTHS AND BETWEEN YOU AND ME --
-- YOU WON'T KNOW IF YOU LIKE HER UNTIL YOU TAKE HER OUT FOR A SPIN.

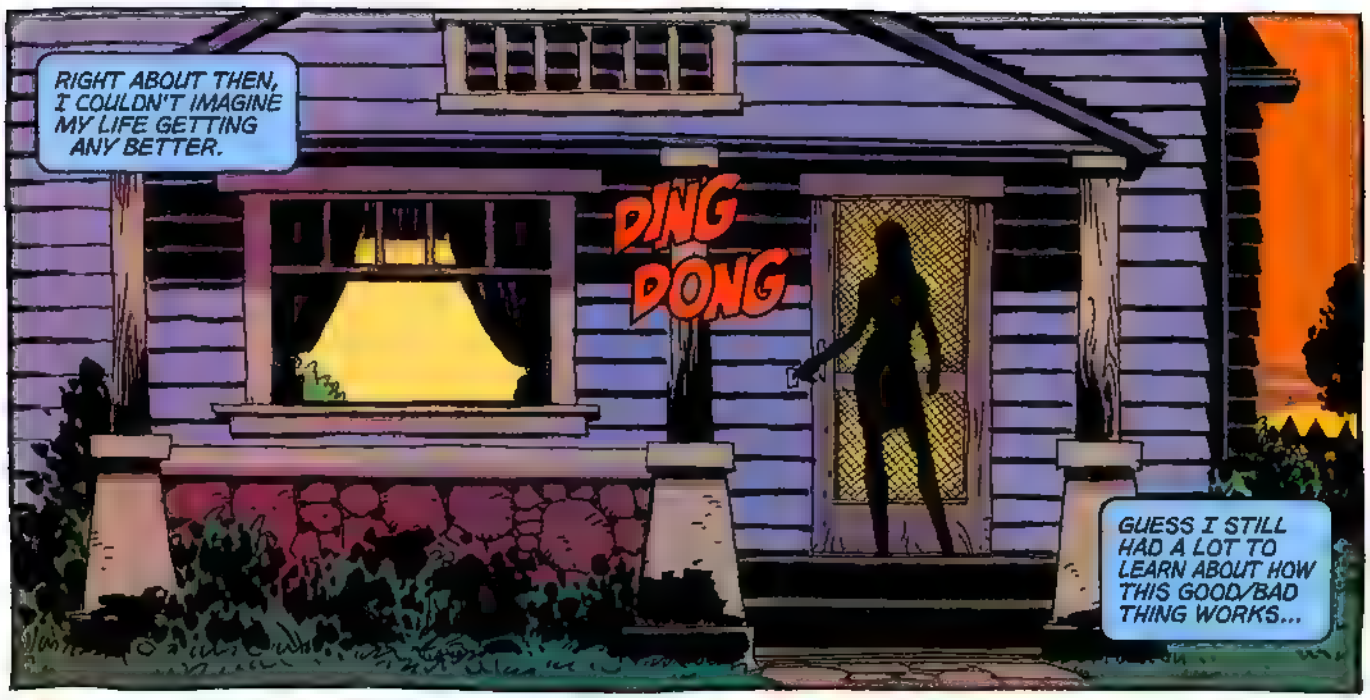

NO. I KNOW THAT. IT'S JUST...

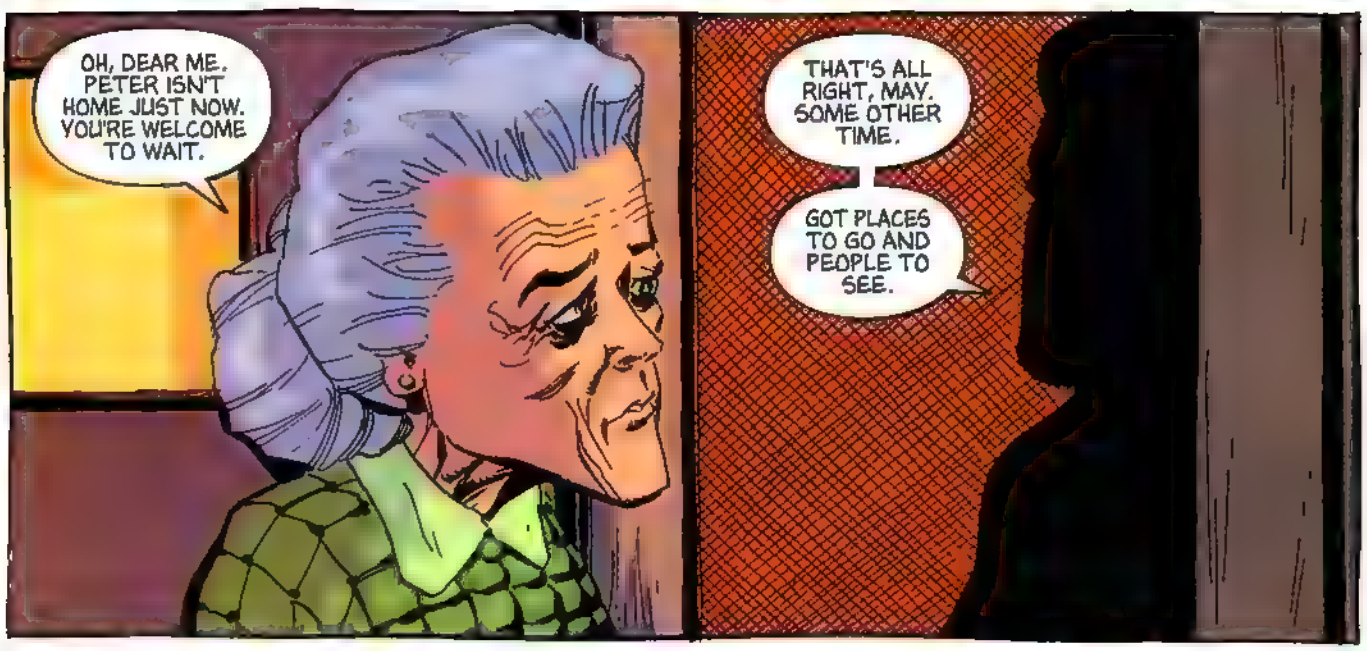

I'D GONE UP AGAINST THE GREEN GOBLIN, DOCTOR DOOM AND THE RHINO.
BUT, MAKING THIS DECISION, SPENDING THAT MUCH MONEY...
...AND THEN, MAYBE BY CHANCE, OR MAYBE GOD HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR AND WE'RE ALL PART OF THE JOKE --

-- THE GANG WALKED BY OUT FRONT.
AND YOU WERE LAUGHING. NOT AT ME. I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT IT WAS ALL ABOUT.
BUT, JUST SEEING YOU THAT HAPPY...
I'LL TAKE IT.

MAYBE POPULARITY ISN'T SOMETHING WITH TWO WHEELS YOU CAN BUY AT A STORE.
BUT, RIGHT ABOUT THEN, IT SURE FELT LIKE IT.
SO... WE ALL MEET OVER AT THE SILVER SPOON?
=SIGH=
SAY, WHAT'S WITH YOU, DOLLFACE?
I DON'T KNOW. CAN'T WE FIND SOMEPLACE NEW?
SPLOOSH
HEY, WATCH IT, JERK!
NICE WHEELS, PETE.
THANKS, HARRY. ANYBODY WANT A RIDE?
SURE YOU DON'T NEED TRAINING WHEELS WITH THAT THING, PARKER?
IS IT FAST?
NOT TOO FAST.
CALCULUS

I LIKE IT FAST.
GWEN STACY. ALL KINDS OF AMAZING.


RIGHT ABOUT THEN, I COULDN'T IMAGINE MY LIFE GETTING ANY BETTER.
DING DONG
GUESS I STILL HAD A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT HOW THIS GOOD/BAD THING WORKS...


OH, DEAR ME. PETER ISN'T HOME JUST NOW. YOU'RE WELCOME TO WAIT.
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, MAY. SOME OTHER TIME.
GOT PLACES TO GO AND PEOPLE TO SEE.

I'M SURE THAT PETER WILL BE SO SORRY THAT HE MISSED YOU.
MAY...
...YOU CAN BET ON IT!
LOEB SALE 2002

BOOK TWO:
let's fall in love
HEY, PAL!
I'M...I'M NOT SURE WHO IS EVER GOING TO LISTEN TO THIS, BUT THIS STORY...OUR STORY, IS SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED.
SO HERE I AM WITH THIS TAPE RECORDER THAT'S SO OLD, IT PROBABLY WAS MY UNCLE BEN'S... TALKING TO A GIRL THAT...THAT...
KLIK WHRRR UM... WHERE WAS IT I PUT DOWN THIS TAPE RECORDER FOR JUST A SECOND AND... HUH...I LOST MY TRAIN OF THOUGHT.
...JUST LIKE THAT "THOUGHT" I LOST... I CAN'T GET BACK AGAIN.
PEOPLE STAY WITH YOU FOR AS LONG AS YOU REMEMBER THEM.
I DON'T WANT TO FORGET YOU, GWEN STACY. STAY WITH ME...
Spider-Man Flees Police At Scene
GREEN GOBLIN DESTROYS FIRE
BLY
GREATER METRO EDI
EXCLUSI
torial by J Jon
Page

THIS AIN'T NO LENDIN' LIBRARY.
THAT'S TWO BITS FOR THE PAPER.
THE GREEN GOBLIN WAS DEAD.
THERE IT WAS IN BLACK AND WHITE.
WITH ALL THE NEWS I MAKE FOR J. JONAH BONEHEAD, YOU'D THINK I'D GET A FREE SUBSCRIPTION.
YEAH, WHATEVER. TWENTY-FIVE CENTS OR I CALL A COP.
OF COURSE, YOU'VE GOT TO QUESTION ANYTHING YOU READ IN THE DAILY BUGLE.
AFTER ALL, ACCORDING TO THEM, I'M A MENACE.
TOW AWAY ZONE
NO STOPS
ANYTIME
SUBMARINE
YACHTS
BALLOON
BUTTONS
EDDIE
COCKTAILS
BURGERS
SANDWICHES
SOUP
DAILY BUGLE
CANDY TREATS
SAMPLE SECRETS
National WEEKLY
GOLF FAN
LAFF
ZONE PERFECT
OPTICS DIGEST
NYC
JANE
Kid GAMING
CIGAR
WILD THINGS
Gents
Journal of the AMO

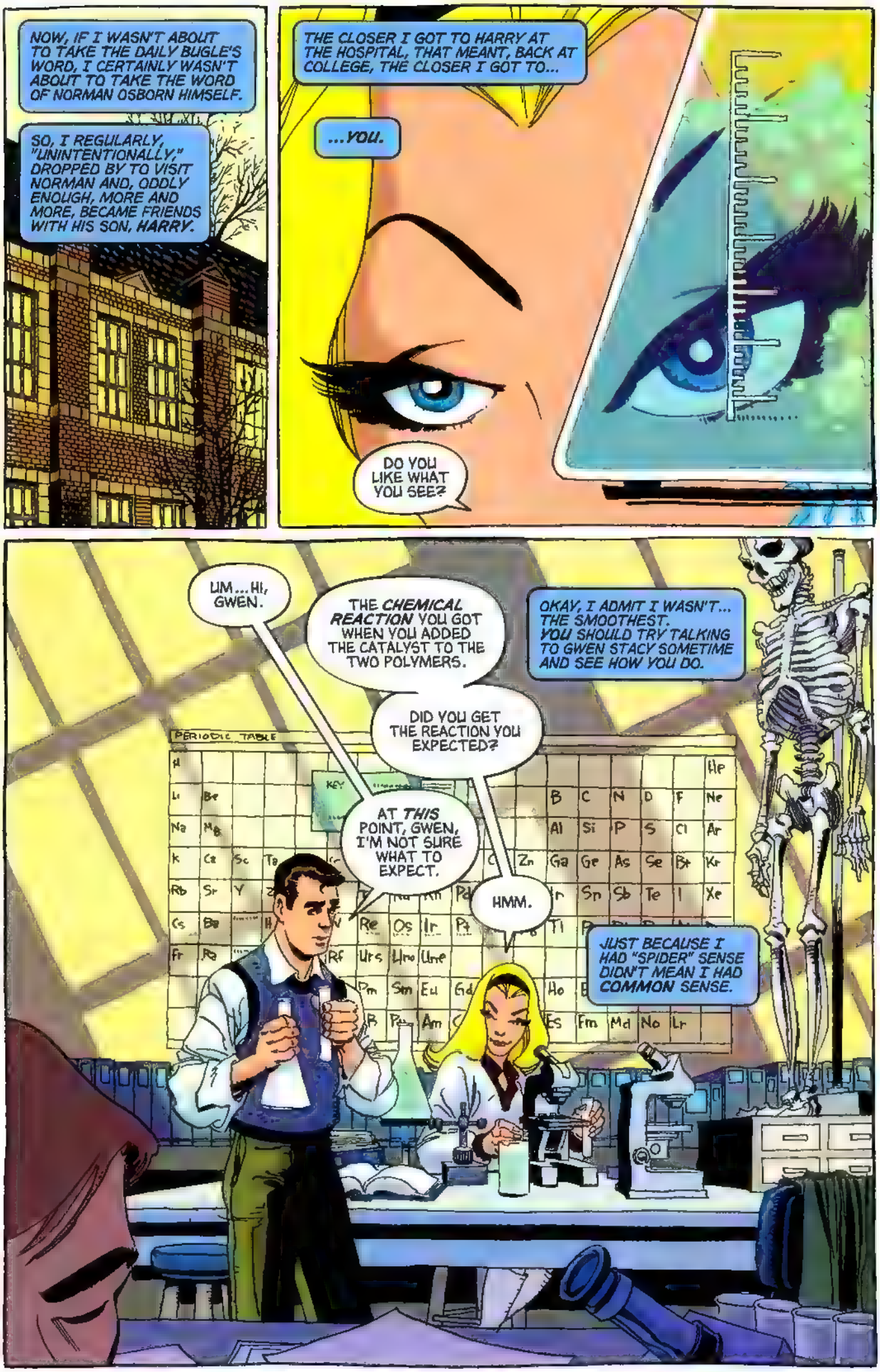
ME.
THANKS. YOU CAN KEEP THE CHANGE.

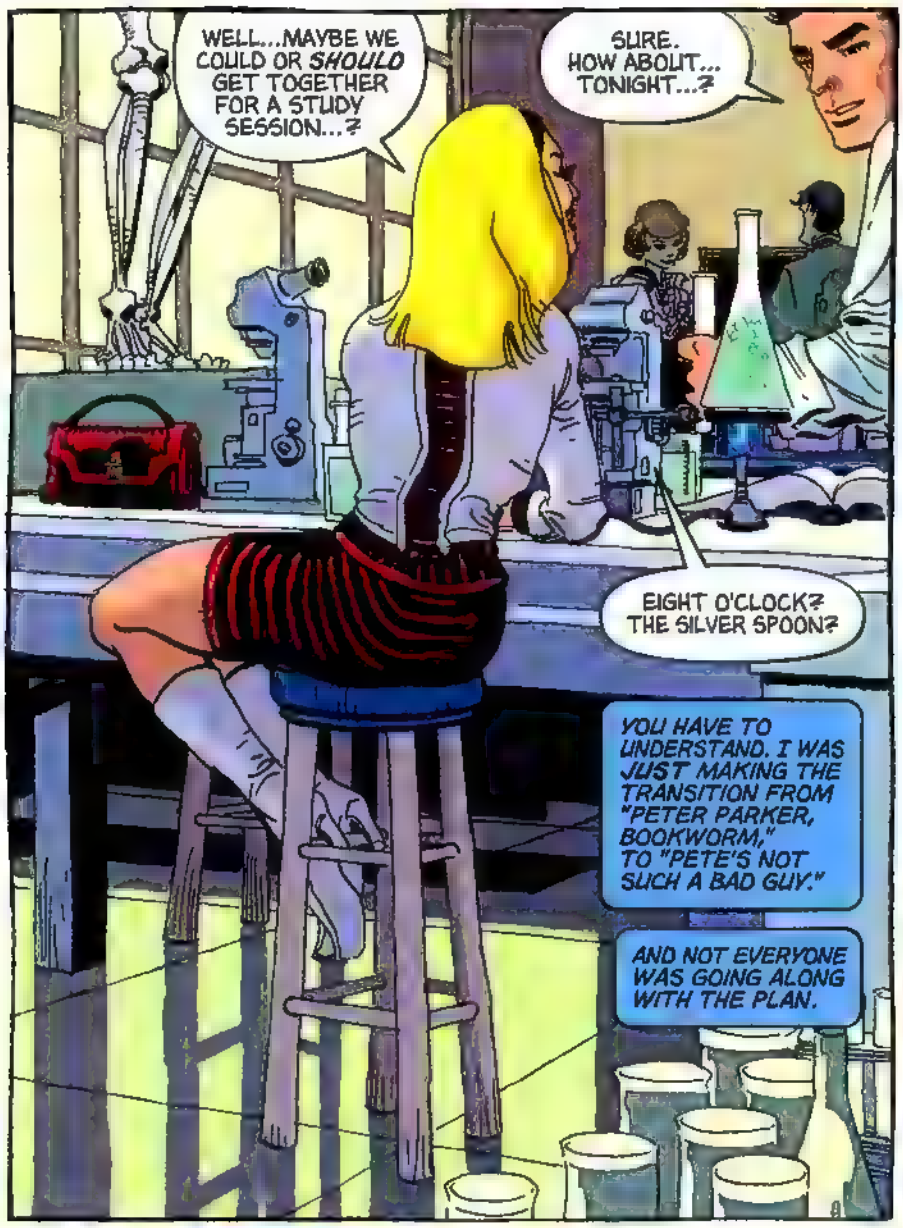
SNAP
EVERYBODY'S A COMEDIAN...
YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN.

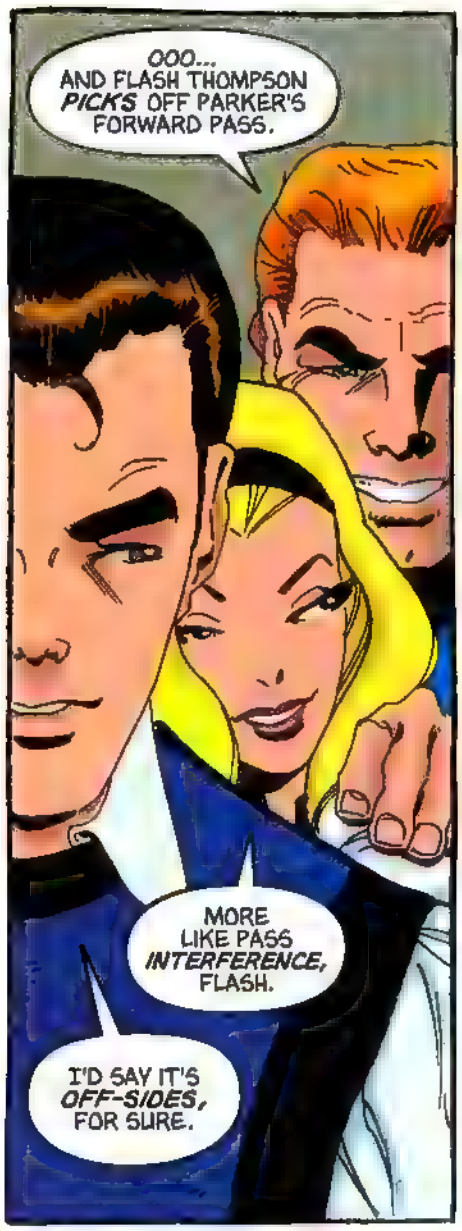
LET ME SEE THAT NEWSPAPER.
MISTER, FOR TWENTY-FIVE CENTS, YOU CAN OWN YOUR VERY --

T-TAKE IT. I'M JUST TRYIN' TO MAKE A LIVIN' --
QUIET.
SNATCH

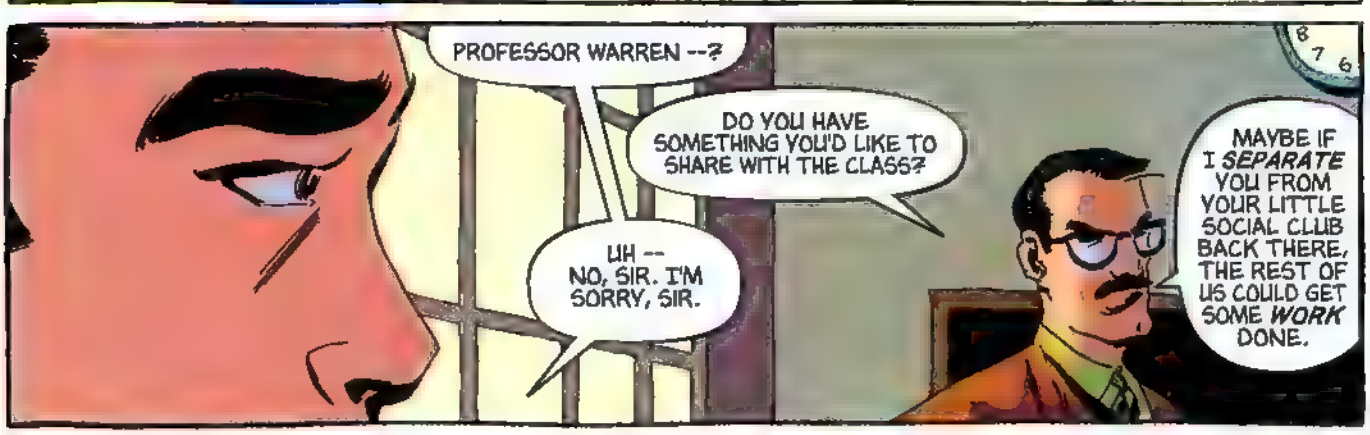
THEN, IT IS TRUE.
THE GREEN GOBLIN IS DEAD.
THEN, THAT'S BAD FOR ME.
AND WORSE FOR SPIDER-MAN...
I KNEW THAT THE MAN WHO WAS THE GOBLIN WASN'T DEAD.
HE WAS NORMAN OSBORN AND NORMAN OSBORN WAS RESTING COMFORTABLY IN A HOSPITAL BED WITH APPARENTLY NO MEMORY OF HIS DUAL LIFE.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, HE DIDN'T REMEMBER THAT PETER PARKER IS SPIDER-MAN.

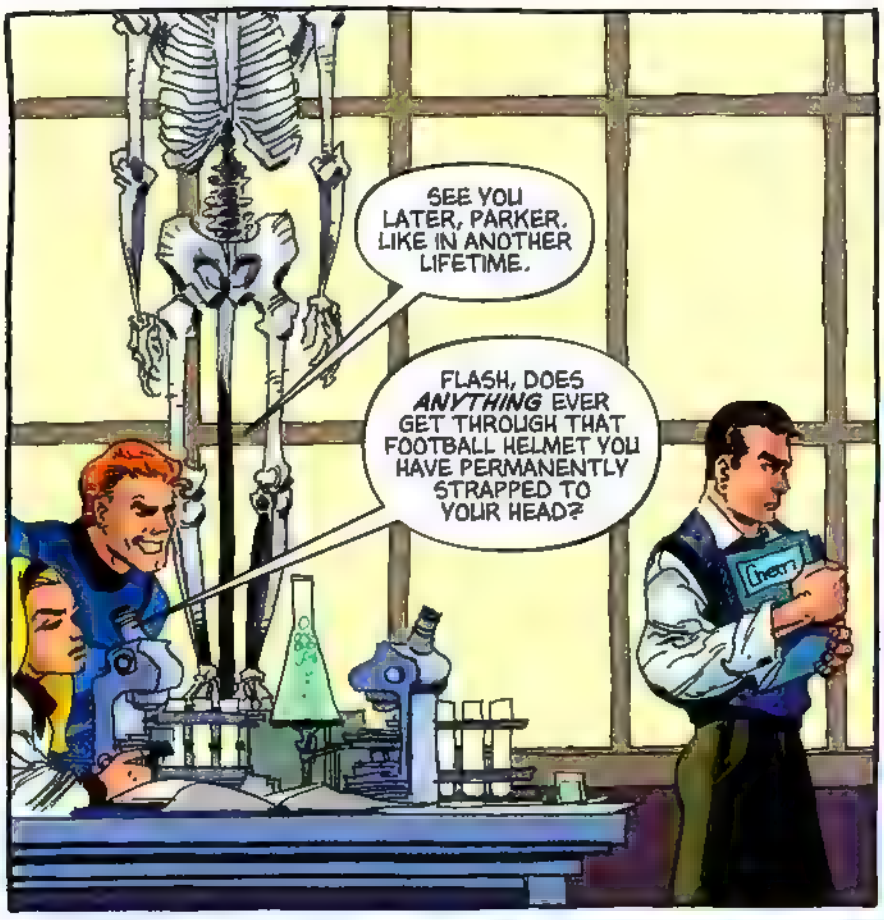

NOW, IF I WASN'T ABOUT TO TAKE THE DAILY BUGLE'S WORD, I CERTAINLY WASN'T ABOUT TO TAKE THE WORD OF NORMAN OSBORN HIMSELF.
SO, I REGULARLY, "UNINTENTIONALLY," DROPPED BY TO VISIT NORMAN AND, ODDLY ENOUGH, MORE AND MORE, BECAME FRIENDS WITH HIS SON, HARRY.
THE CLOSER I GOT TO HARRY AT THE HOSPITAL, THAT MEANT, BACK AT COLLEGE, THE CLOSER I GOT TO...
...YOU.
DO YOU LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?
UM... HI, GWEN.
THE CHEMICAL REACTION YOU GOT WHEN YOU ADDED THE CATALYST TO THE TWO POLYMERS.
DID YOU GET THE REACTION YOU EXPECTED?
AT THIS POINT, GWEN, I'M NOT SURE WHAT TO EXPECT.
HMM.
OKAY, I ADMIT I WASN'T... THE SMOOTHEST. YOU SHOULD TRY TALKING TO GWEN STACY SOMETIME AND SEE HOW YOU DO.
JUST BECAUSE I HAD "SPIDER" SENSE DIDN'T MEAN I HAD COMMON SENSE.
PERIODIC TABLE
KEY


WELL...MAYBE WE COULD OR *SHOULD* GET TOGETHER FOR A STUDY SESSION...?
SURE. HOW ABOUT... TONIGHT...?
EIGHT O'CLOCK? THE SILVER SPOON?
YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND. I WAS JUST MAKING THE TRANSITION FROM "PETER PARKER, BOOKWORM," TO "PETE'S NOT SUCH A BAD GUY."
AND NOT EVERYONE WAS GOING ALONG WITH THE PLAN.

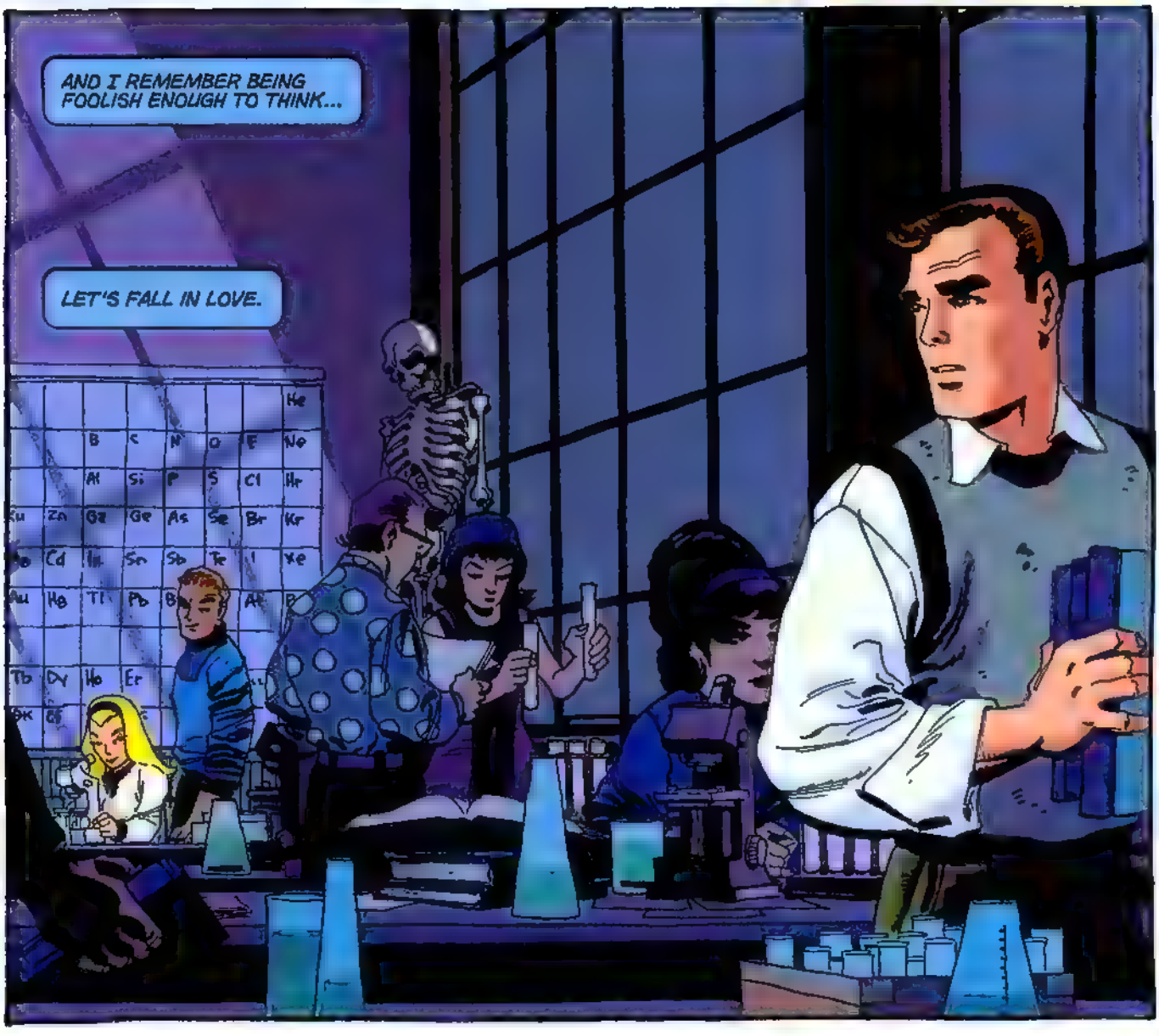

OOO... AND FLASH THOMPSON *PICKS* OFF PARKER'S FORWARD PASS.
MORE LIKE PASS *INTERFERENCE*, FLASH.
I'D SAY IT'S *OFF-SIDES*, FOR SURE.

WATCH YOURSELF, *PARKER*. JUST BECAUSE *HARRY* GIVES YOU A HALL PASS, DOESN'T MEAN YOU GET A FREE RIDE.
UH-OH. TWO METAPHORS IN ONE DAY, FLASH. CAREFUL YOU DON'T HURT YOURSELF --
-- MISTER *PARKER*.

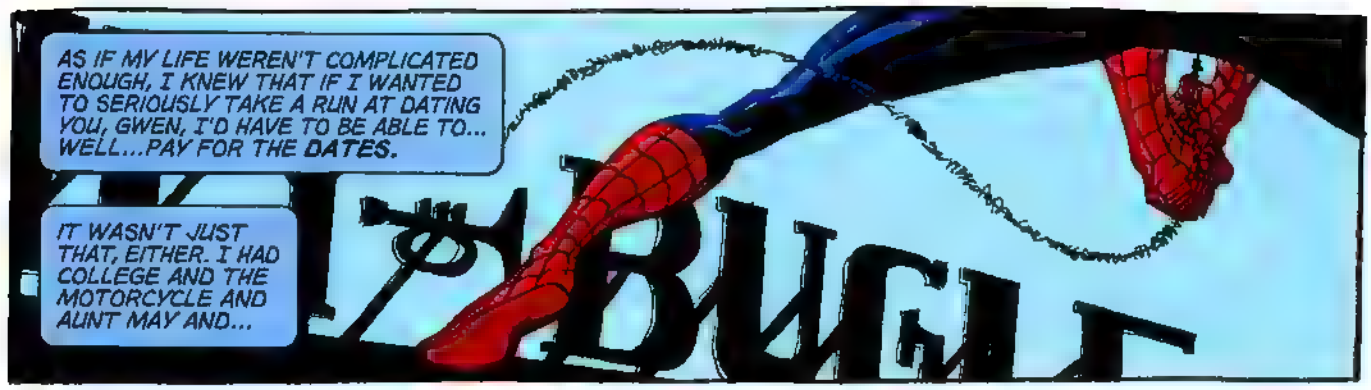

PROFESSOR WARREN --?
DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH THE CLASS?
UH -- NO, SIR. I'M SORRY, SIR.
MAYBE IF I *SEPARATE* YOU FROM YOUR LITTLE SOCIAL CLUB BACK THERE, THE REST OF US COULD GET SOME *WORK* DONE.

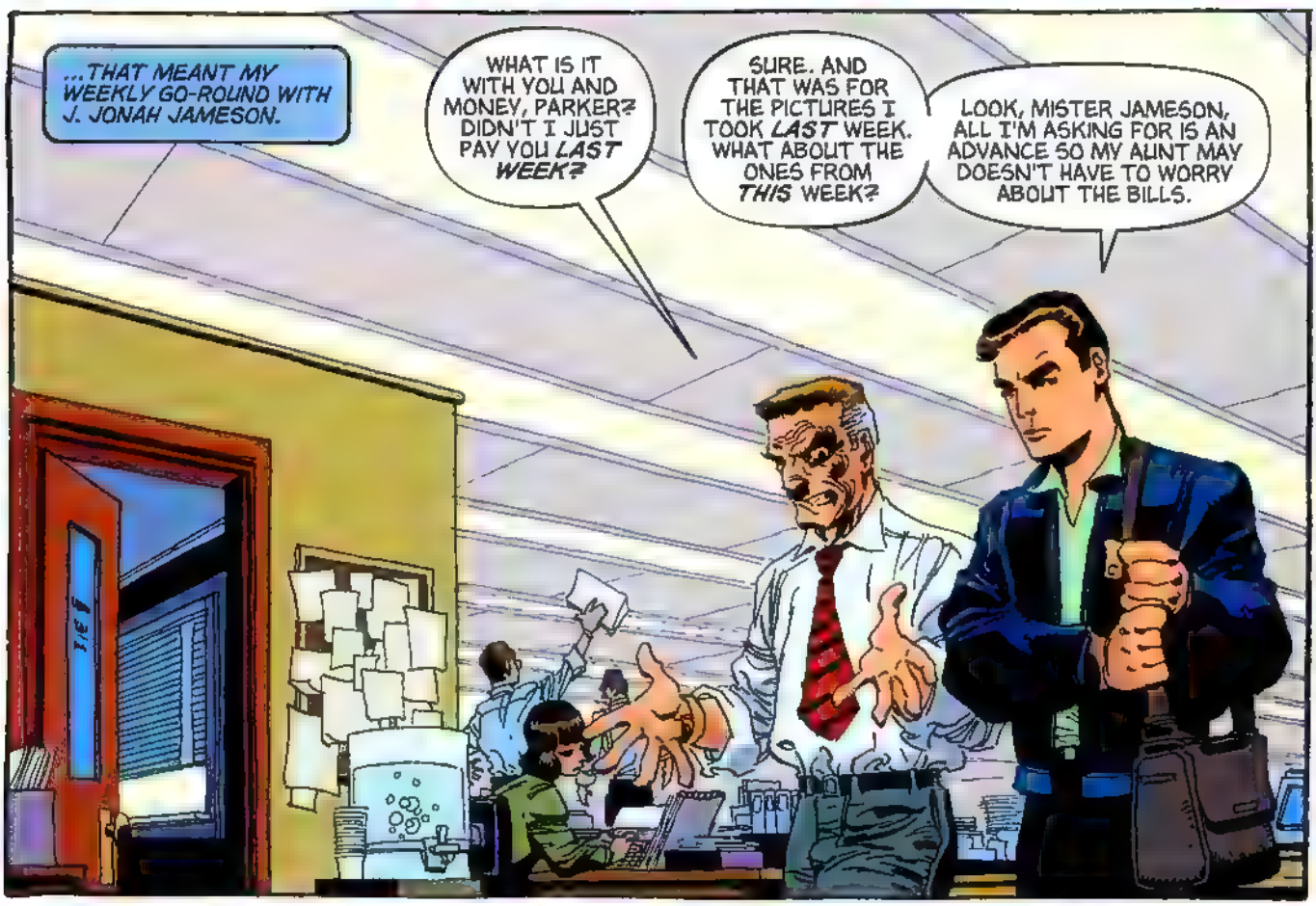

SEE YOU LATER, PARKER. LIKE IN ANOTHER LIFETIME.
FLASH, DOES *ANYTHING* EVER GET THROUGH THAT FOOTBALL HELMET YOU HAVE PERMANENTLY STRAPPED TO YOUR HEAD?

YOU'VE GOT ME WRONG, GORGEOUS. WHEN FLASH IS OFF THE FIELD, THE HELMET GETS STORED.
ALONG WITH WHAT'S *IN* IT.


AND I REMEMBER BEING FOOLISH ENOUGH TO THINK...
LET'S FALL IN LOVE.

IT WAS SILLY, REALLY. IMPOSSIBLE. GWEN STACY INTERESTED IN ME?
CAN YOU BELIEVE THEY'RE GONNA LET THAT THING INTO A COURTHOUSE?
EVERYBODY GETS HIS DAY. THEY DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET THAT SUIT OFF, SO HE GOES AS HE GOES.
RNING
AIR
LUSH
HATE TO THINK WHAT HAPPENS IF HE WAKES --
SQUASH
WARNING
AIR
FLUSH
ON
SHLAK
FLOOSH
HRRGNN


AS IF MY LIFE WEREN'T COMPLICATED ENOUGH, I KNEW THAT IF I WANTED TO SERIOUSLY TAKE A RUN AT DATING YOU, GWEN, I'D HAVE TO BE ABLE TO... WELL...PAY FOR THE DATES.
IT WASN'T JUST THAT, EITHER. I HAD COLLEGE AND THE MOTORCYCLE AND AUNT MAY AND...
BUGLE


...THAT MEANT MY WEEKLY GO-ROUND WITH J. JONAH JAMESON.
WHAT IS IT WITH YOU AND MONEY, PARKER? DIDN'T I JUST PAY YOU LAST WEEK?
SURE. AND THAT WAS FOR THE PICTURES I TOOK LAST WEEK. WHAT ABOUT THE ONES FROM THIS WEEK?
LOOK, MISTER JAMESON, ALL I'M ASKING FOR IS AN ADVANCE SO MY AUNT MAY DOESN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE BILLS.

LISTEN, KID. I USED TO HAVE AN AUNT WHO WORRIED ABOUT MONEY ALL THE TIME, TOO.
REALLY? WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?

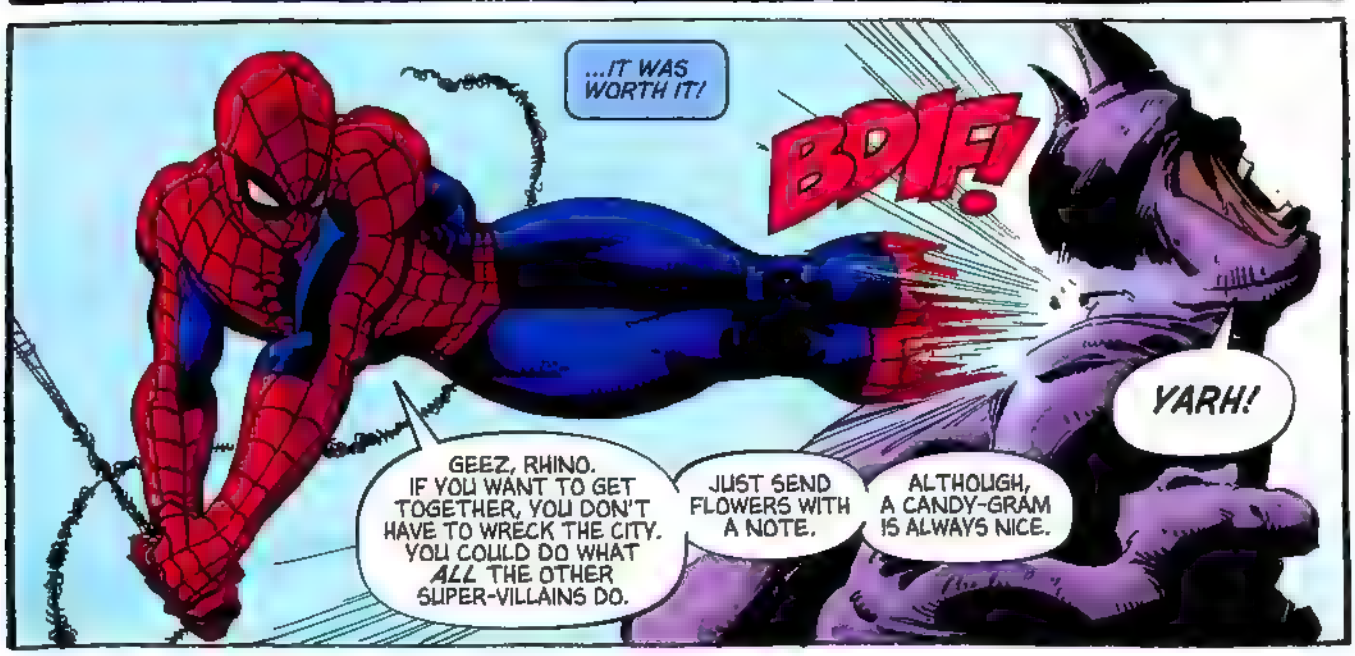
SHE DIED!
SLAM

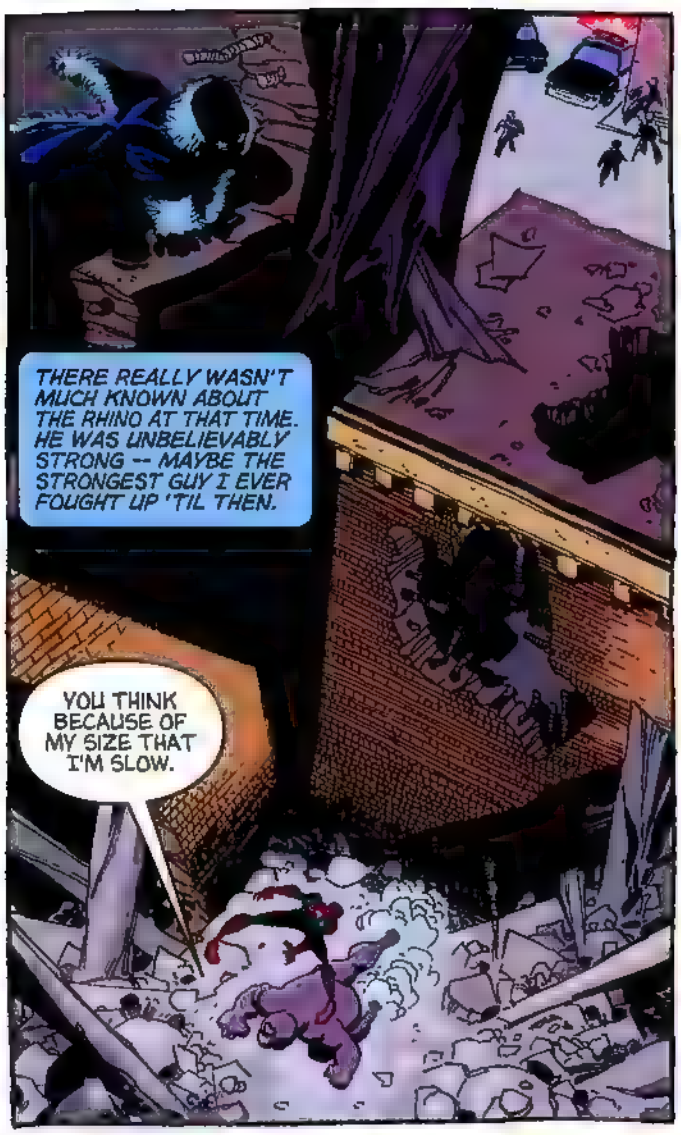
HELLO, PETER.
DON'T LET JONAH GET YOU DOWN. HIS HEART IS IN THE RIGHT PLACE.
YEAH, IN SOMEONE ELSE'S BODY...
J. JONAH JAMESON
LOOK, UM...THE RHINO JUST BUSTED OUT OF MIDTOWN AND IS TEARING UP BROADWAY.

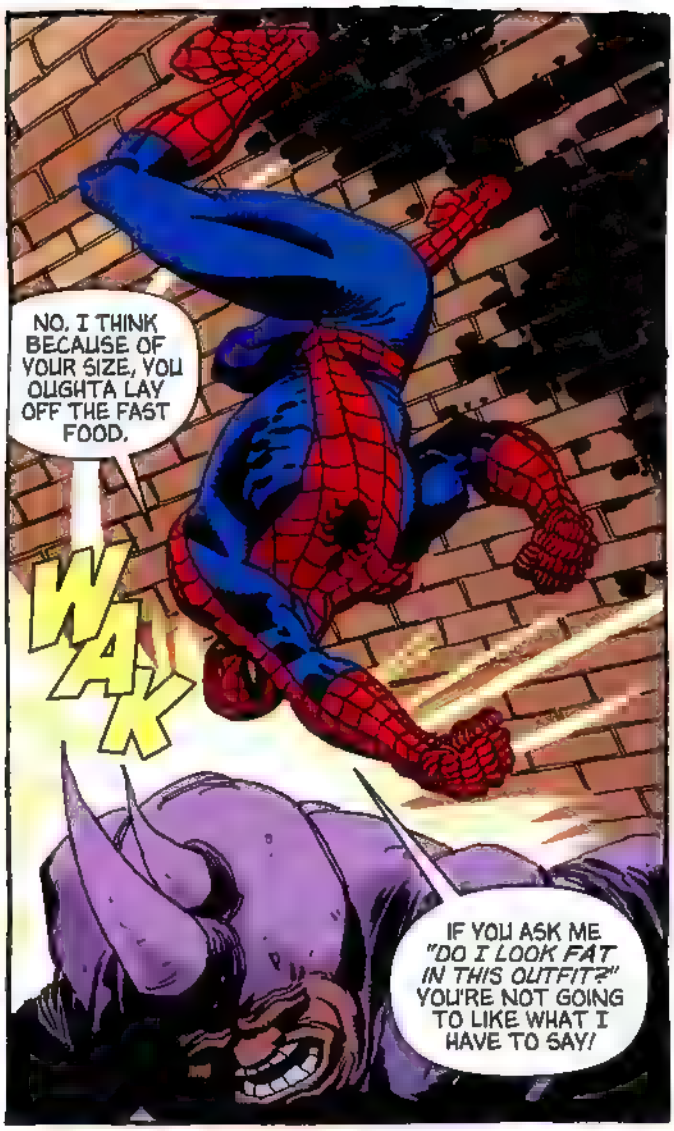
THE RHINO?!

YOU GET US SOME GOOD PHOTOS AND I'LL SPEAK TO JONAH.
I WON'T LET YOU DOWN, ROBBIE!
I KNOW YOU WON'T, PETER. I KNOW YOU WON'T...

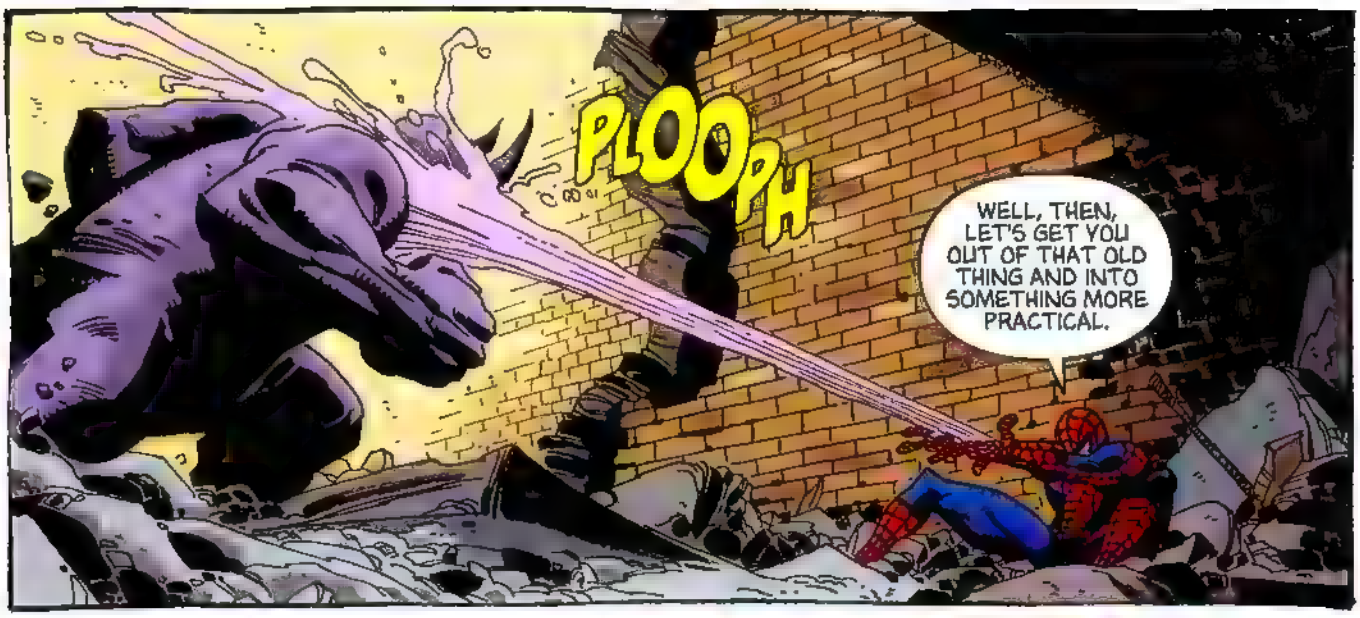
YOU SEE, THIS WAS THE SO-CALLED "COMEDY" OF MY LIFE. I WANTED A DATE WITH A GIRL LIKE GWEN, BUT DIDN'T HAVE THE MONEY. I COULD GET THE MONEY, BUT ONLY IF I TOOK SOME PHOTOS OF THE RHINO BEATING THE SNOT OUT OF ME.
I WANT SPIDER-MAN!
ANY WAY I DID THE MATH...


...IT WAS WORTH IT!
BDIF!
YARH!
GEEZ, RHINO. IF YOU WANT TO GET TOGETHER, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WRECK THE CITY. YOU COULD DO WHAT *ALL* THE OTHER SUPER-VILLAINS DO.
JUST SEND FLOWERS WITH A NOTE.
ALTHOUGH, A CANDY-GRAM IS ALWAYS NICE.


THERE REALLY WASN'T MUCH KNOWN ABOUT THE RHINO AT THAT TIME. HE WAS UNBELIEVABLY STRONG -- MAYBE THE STRONGEST GUY I EVER FOUGHT UP 'TIL THEN.
YOU THINK BECAUSE OF MY SIZE THAT I'M SLOW.

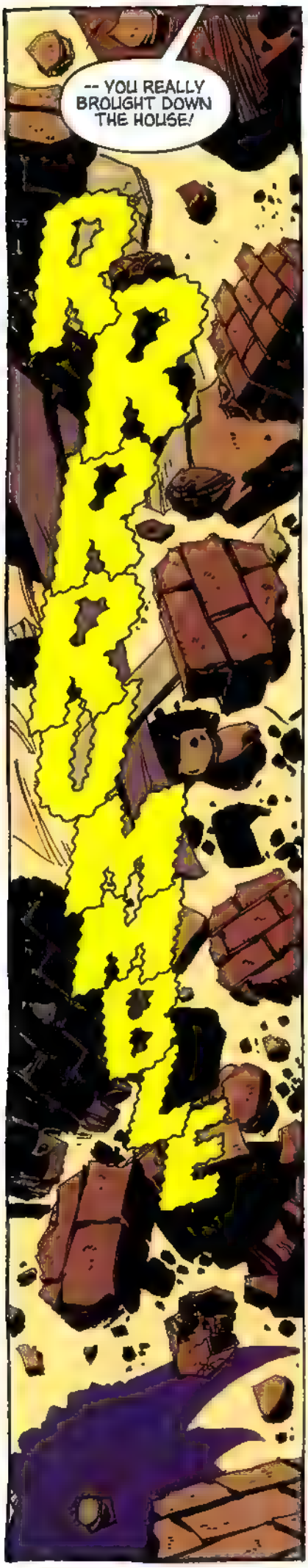

NO. I THINK BECAUSE OF YOUR SIZE, YOU OUGHTA LAY OFF THE FAST FOOD.
WAK
IF YOU ASK ME "DO I LOOK FAT IN THIS OUTFIT?" YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIKE WHAT I HAVE TO SAY!

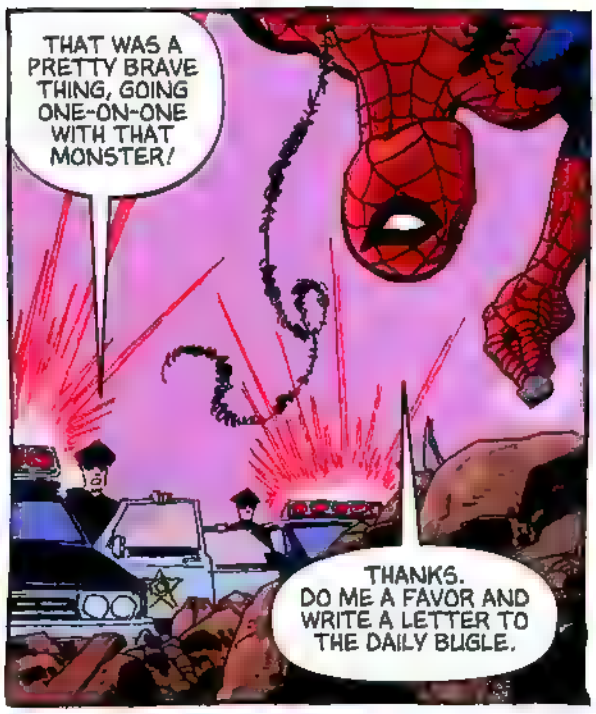
THIS HIDE IS WHAT MAKES ME THE RHINO!
BAM!
THIS HIDE IS WHAT'S GOING TO KILL YOU!

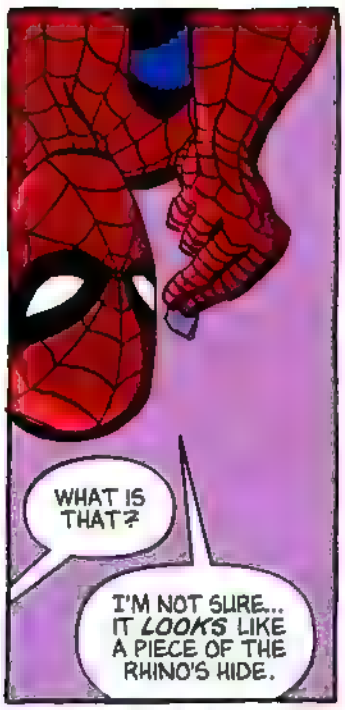

PLOOPH
WELL, THEN, LET'S GET YOU OUT OF THAT OLD THING AND INTO SOMETHING MORE PRACTICAL.

LIKE A TUTU!

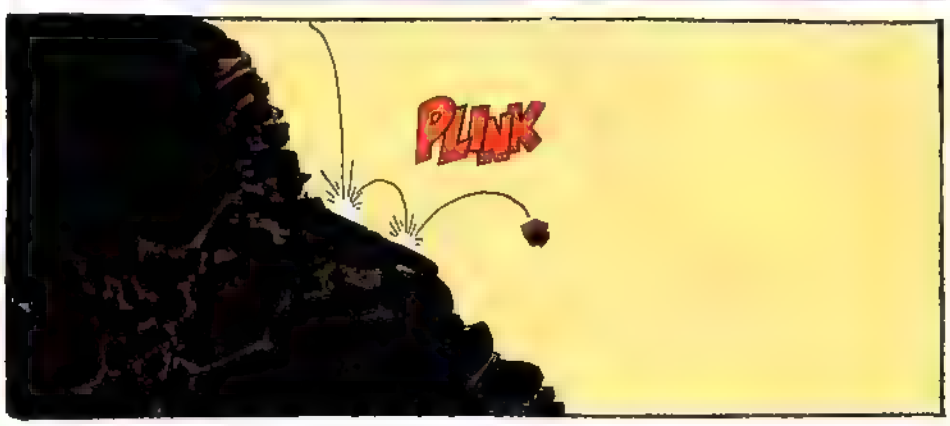
GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU, RHINO --
BRAKK


-- YOU REALLY BROUGHT DOWN THE HOUSE!
CRASH

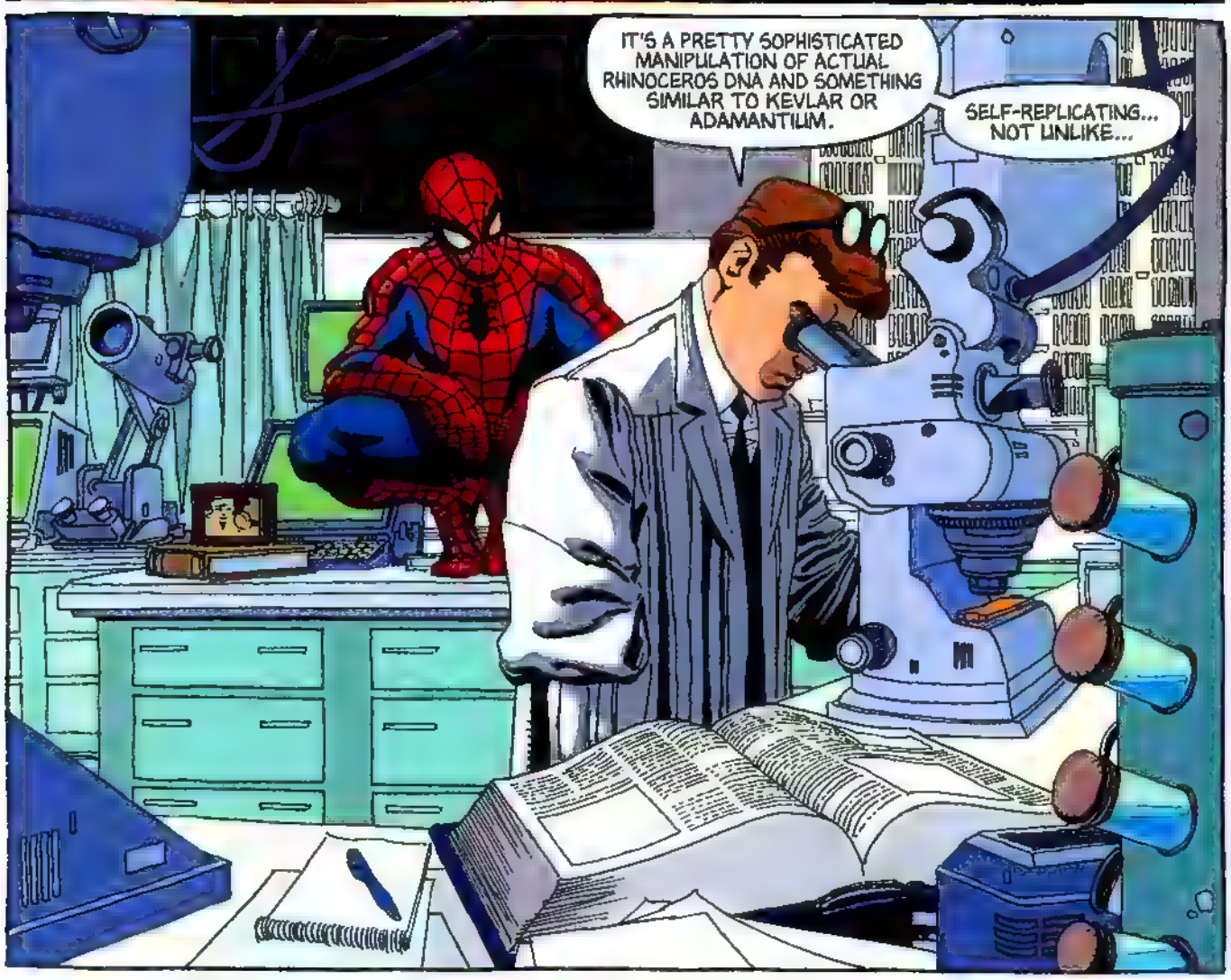

THAT WAS A PRETTY BRAVE THING, GOING ONE-ON-ONE WITH THAT MONSTER!
THANKS. DO ME A FAVOR AND WRITE A LETTER TO THE DAILY BUGLE.

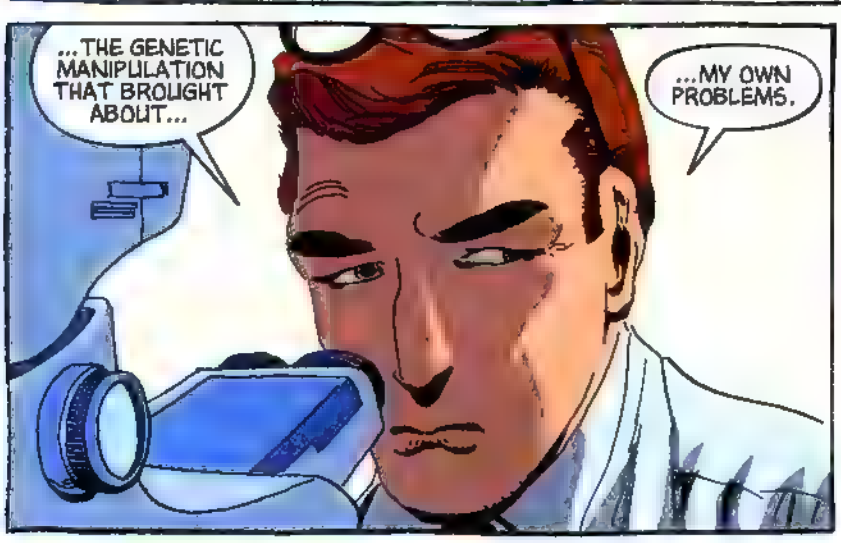

WHAT IS THAT?
I'M NOT SURE... IT *LOOKS* LIKE A PIECE OF THE RHINO'S HIDE.

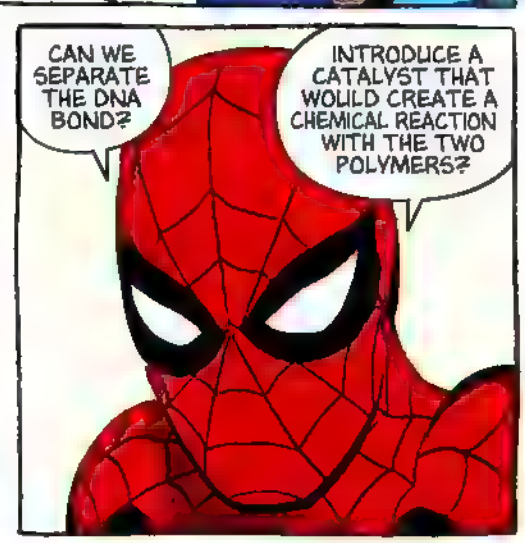
LOOK, CAN YOU GUYS HOLD DOWN THE FORT WHILE I GO CHECK THIS OUT?
TAKE YOUR TIME. HE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
DON'T BE SO SURE. I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS I CAN!

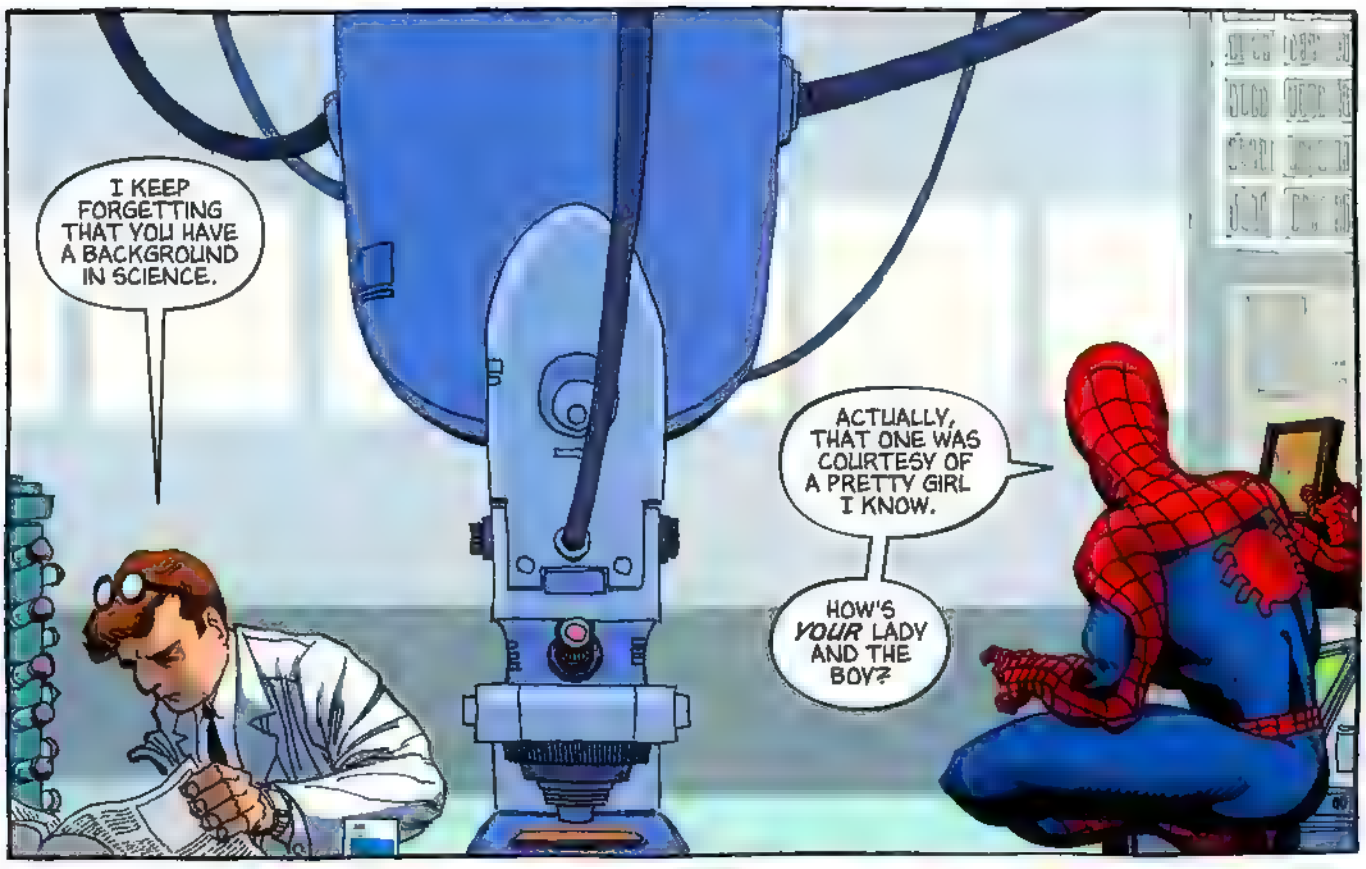

PLINK

WHAT DO YOU THINK, DOC?
I THINK... I KNOW WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH HERE...
I TOOK THE PROBLEM TO DOCTOR CURT CONNORS. POOR DOC. IF MY LIFE WAS MADE UP OF BAD THINGS TURNING GOOD...
...HIS WAS THE OPPOSITE. HOW ELSE DOES A DEVOTED FAMILY MAN WHO WANTED ONLY TO REGENERATE HIS MISSING ARM...
...BECOME...THE VERY THING THAT WOULD KEEP HIM FROM HIS WIFE AND SON?

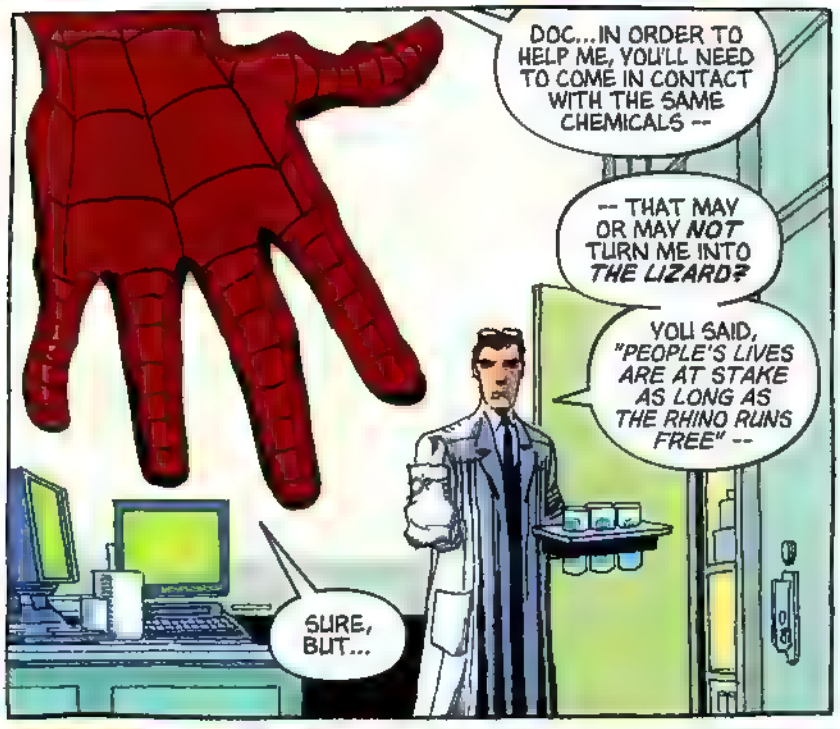

IT'S A PRETTY SOPHISTICATED MANIPULATION OF ACTUAL RHINOCEROS DNA AND SOMETHING SIMILAR TO KEVLAR OR ADAMANTIUM.
SELF-REPLICATING... NOT UNLIKE...

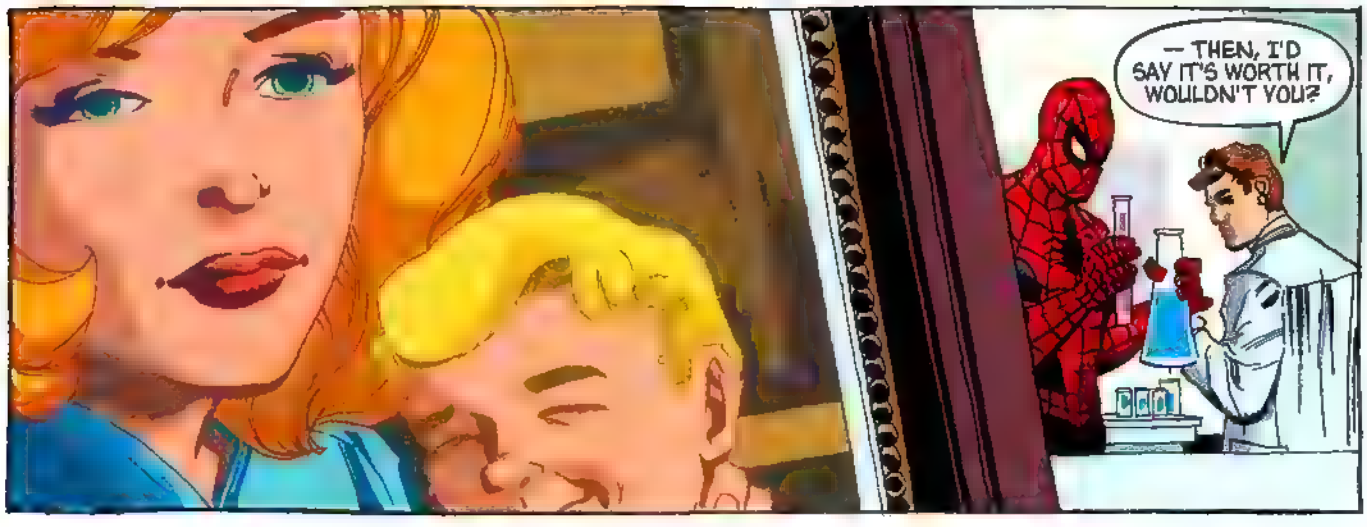

...THE GENETIC MANIPULATION THAT BROUGHT ABOUT...
...MY OWN PROBLEMS.


CAN WE SEPARATE THE DNA BOND?
INTRODUCE A CATALYST THAT WOULD CREATE A CHEMICAL REACTION WITH THE TWO POLYMERS?

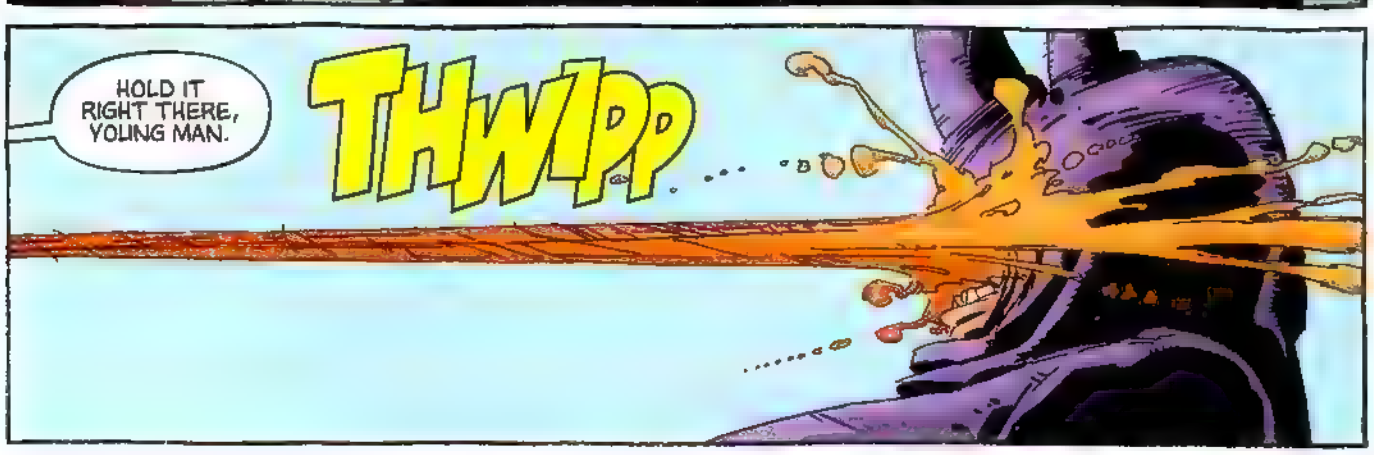

I KEEP FORGETTING THAT YOU HAVE A BACKGROUND IN SCIENCE.
ACTUALLY, THAT ONE WAS COURTESY OF A PRETTY GIRL I KNOW.
HOW'S *YOUR* LADY AND THE BOY?

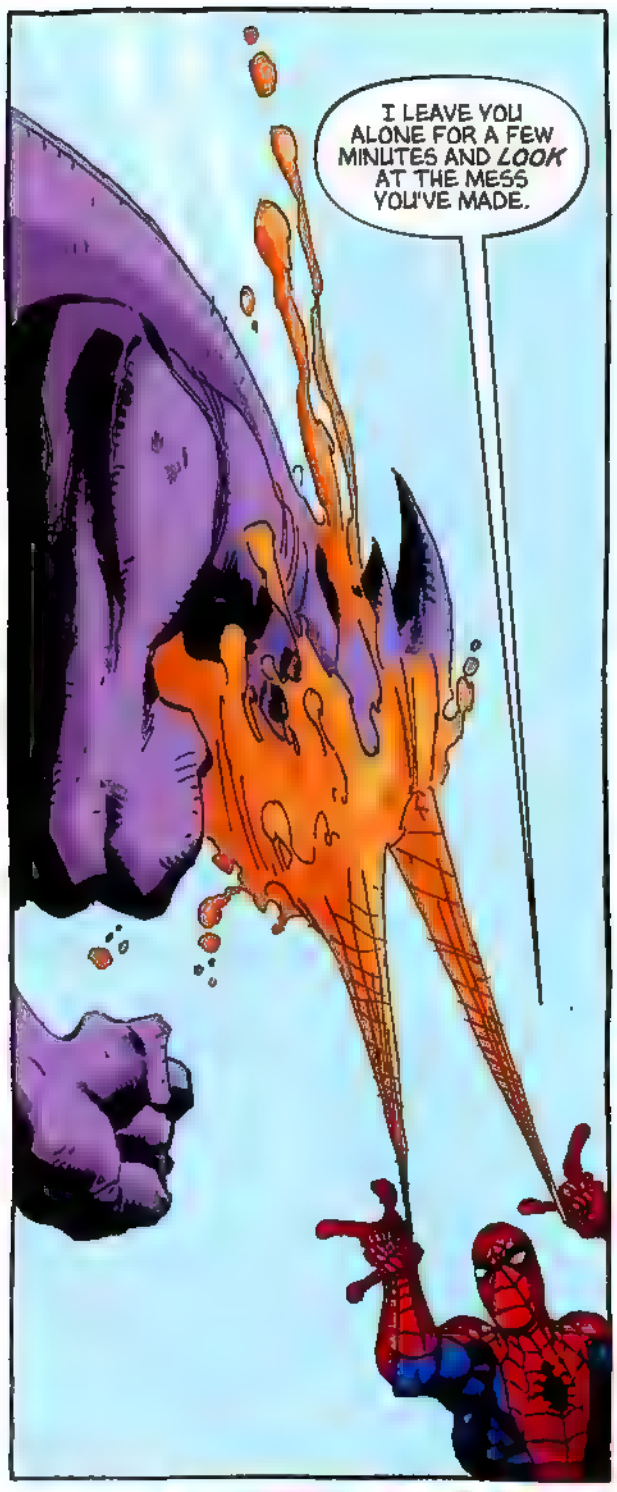
THEY'RE WELL, THANK YOU. IN FACT, I'M CONFIDENT ENOUGH ABOUT MY...CONDITION THAT I'VE INVITED THEM UP FROM FLORIDA NEXT WEEK.
I'D LIKE TO SHOW THEM THIS CITY.

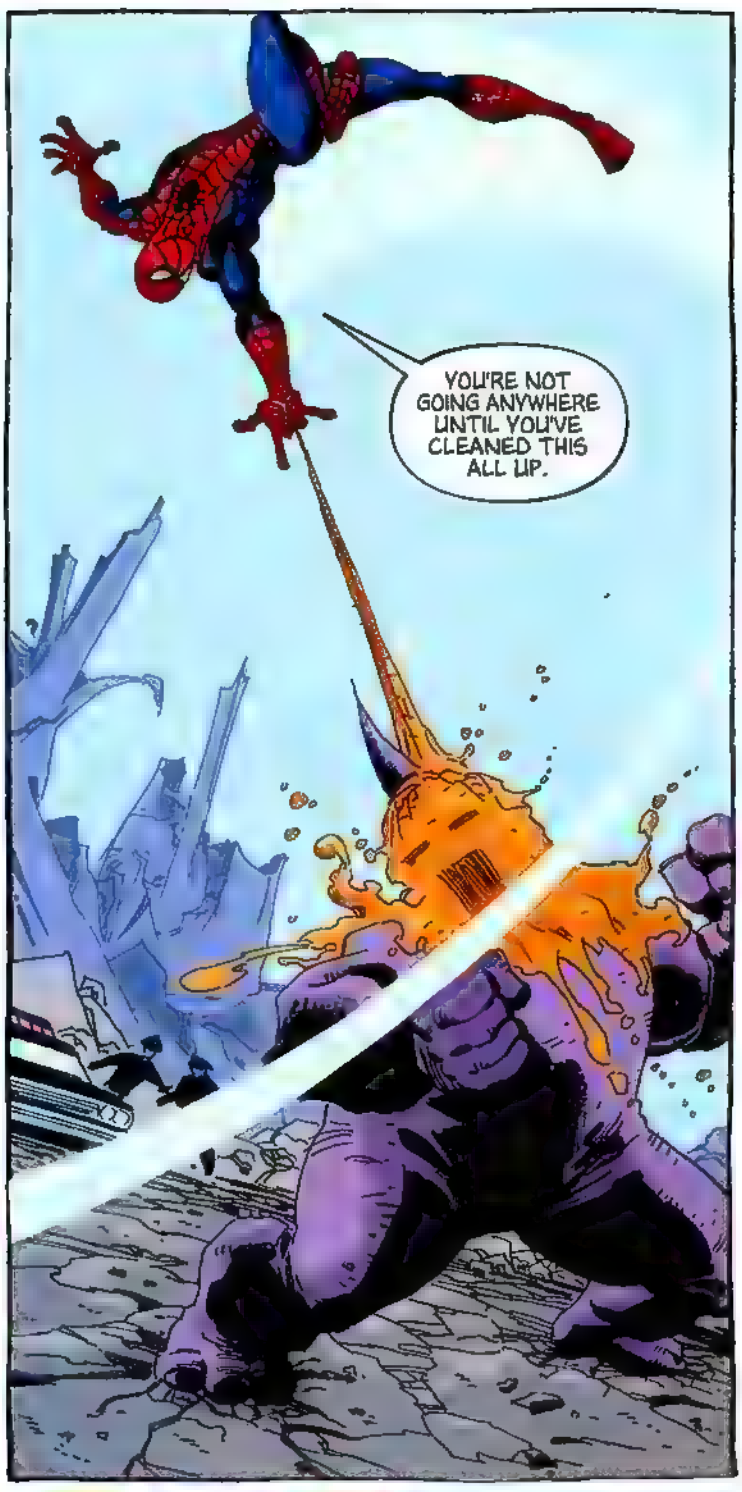

DOC...IN ORDER TO HELP ME, YOU'LL NEED TO COME IN CONTACT WITH THE SAME CHEMICALS --
-- THAT MAY OR MAY *NOT* TURN ME INTO *THE LIZARD?*
YOU SAID, *"PEOPLE'S LIVES ARE AT STAKE AS LONG AS THE RHINO RUNS FREE"* --
SURE, BUT...

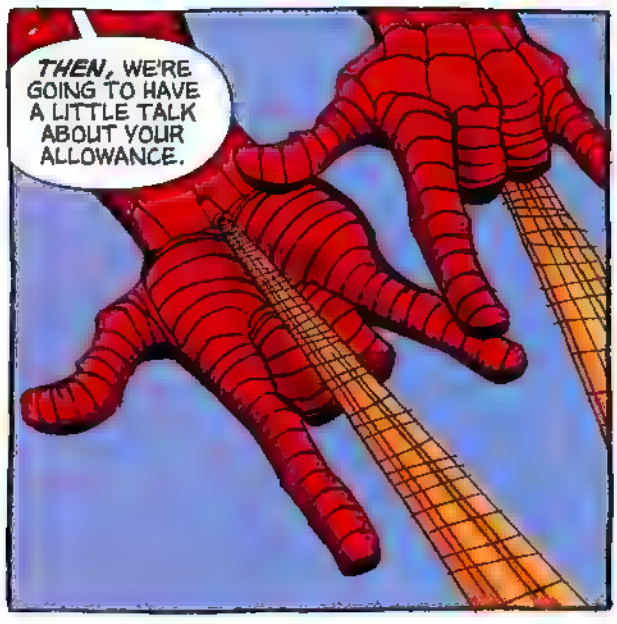

-- THEN, I'D SAY IT'S WORTH IT, WOULDN'T YOU?

YOU CAN'T RUN FROM ME, SPIDER-MAN!
I'LL FIND YOU IF I HAVE TO BRING THE WHOLE CITY DOWN TO DO IT!


HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, YOUNG MAN.
THWIPP

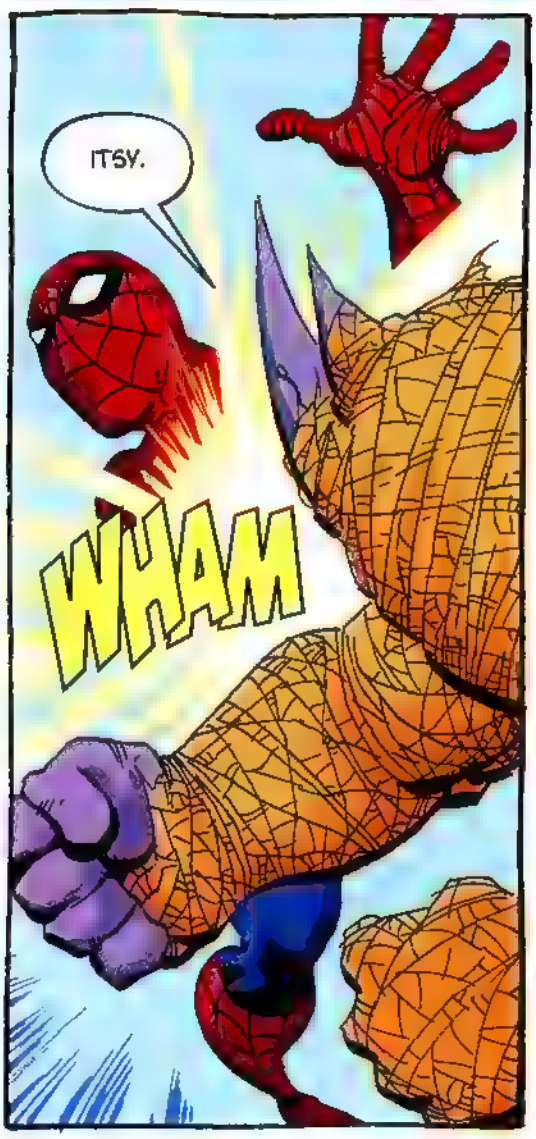

I LEAVE YOU ALONE FOR A FEW MINUTES AND *LOOK* AT THE MESS YOU'VE MADE.


YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE UNTIL YOU'VE CLEANED THIS ALL UP.


THEN, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A LITTLE TALK ABOUT YOUR ALLOWANCE.

YOU'RE IN A LOT OF TROUBLE, SON.

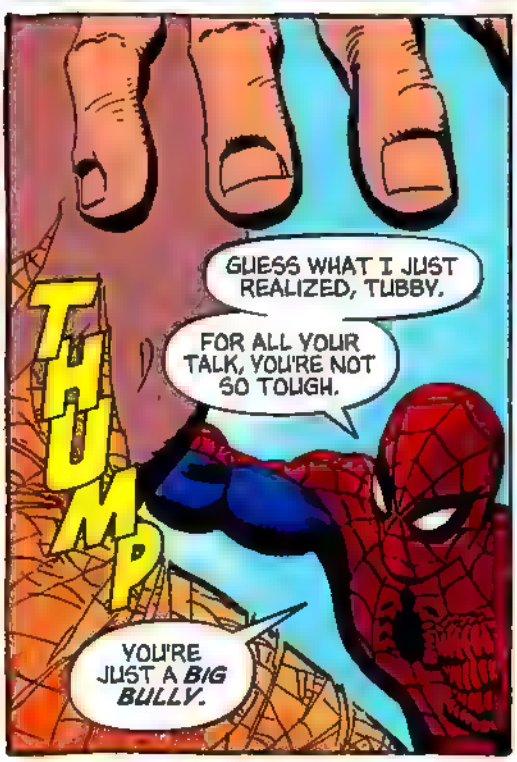
UH-OH.
ENOUGH.

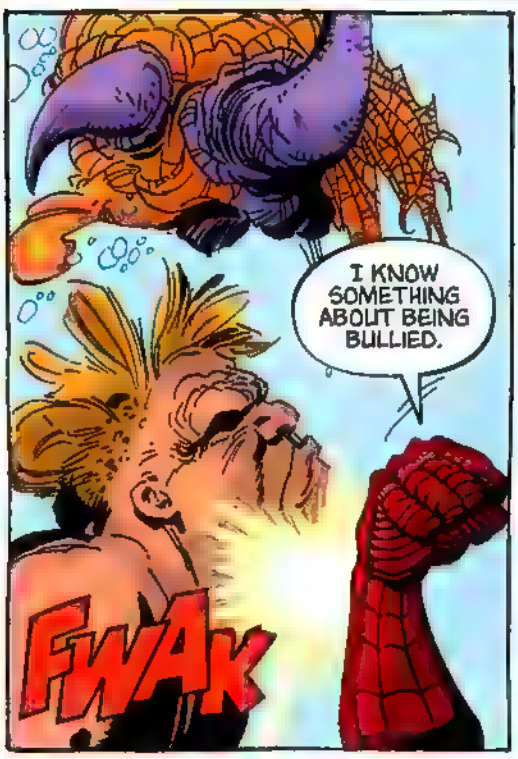

ITSY.
WHAM

BITSY.
DKUSH

SPIDER.

GAHH! WHAT -- WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?!
WELL, WHATD'YA KNOW? DOWN CAME THE RAIN AND WASHED THE RHINO OUT.
HOPE YOU LIKED THE SPECIAL WEBBING A FRIEND AND I COOKED UP FOR YOU.
I KNOW IT'S NOT QUITE CUPCAKES, BUT DIDN'T WE TALK ABOUT WATCHING YOUR WEIGHT?


THUMP
GUESS WHAT I JUST REALIZED, TUBBY.
FOR ALL YOUR TALK, YOU'RE NOT SO TOUGH.
YOU'RE JUST A BIG BULLY.


I KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT BEING BULLIED.
FWAK

MORE THAN ANYBODY MY AGE SHOULD KNOW.

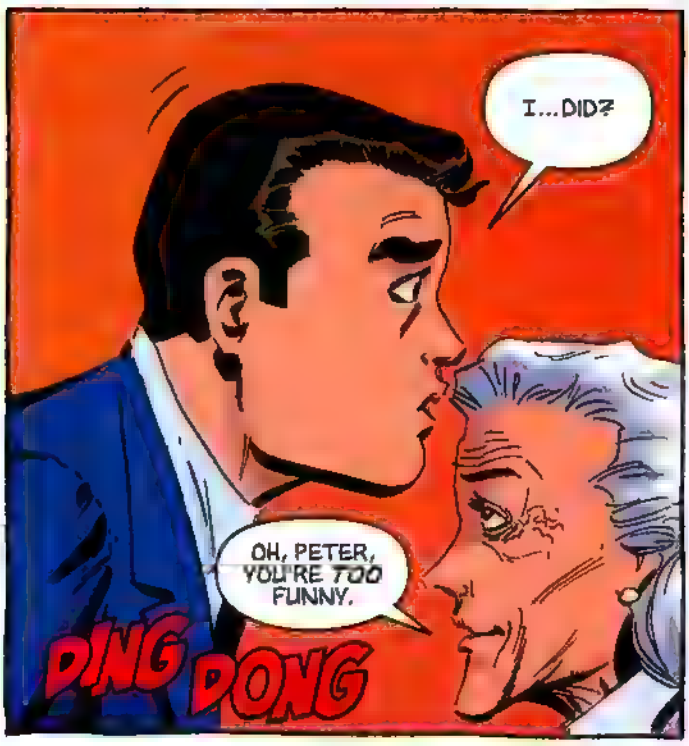
THAT NIGHT, I HAD ACHES AND PAINS IN PLACES I DIDN'T THINK I COULD HAVE ACHES AND PAINS.
BUT, I HAD BEATEN THE RHINO, MAYBE THE STRONGEST BRUTE OUT THERE THIS SIDE OF THE HULK.
AND ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT WAS HOW A LITTLE INNOCENT COMMENT FROM GWEN HAD WON THE DAY.

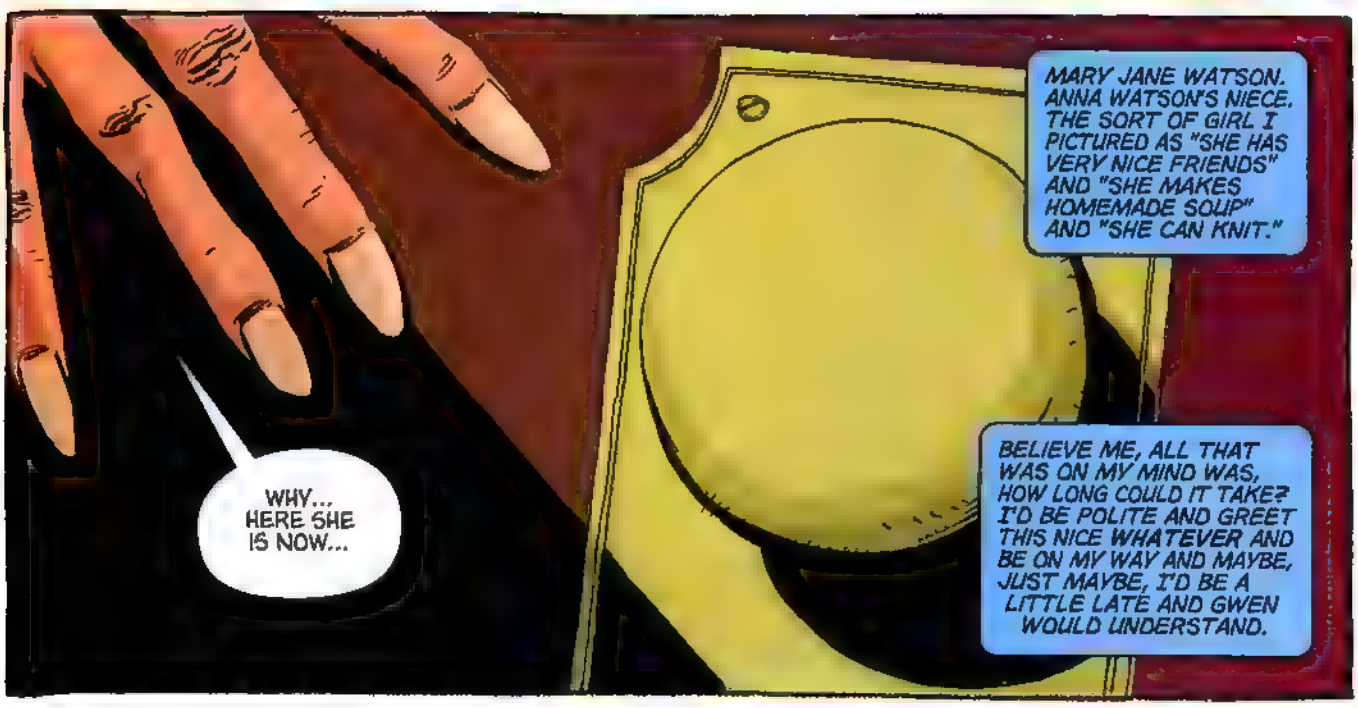
MAYBE IT WAS ONLY GOING TO BE A STUDY SESSION, BUT THE WAY I LOOKED AT IT, EVERY SECOND I COULD SPEND WITH GWEN, I WAS THE LUCKIEST GUY IN TOWN.

OKAY, AUNT MAY! I'LL BE BACK LATER, SO DON'T WAIT UP --

-- OR STAND THERE...
AUNT MAY. IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG?
WRONG? OH, HEAVENS, NO.
I WAS JUST THINKING HOW HANDSOME YOU LOOK.

YEAH, BUT WHO'D NOTICE WHEN I'M STANDING NEXT TO THE PRETTIEST GIRL EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI?
IT'S JUST... THAT YOU TOOK SO MUCH TIME TO GET READY AND HERE YOU ARE...
...ALL JUST TO MEET MARY JANE WATSON.


I...DID?
OH, PETER, YOU'RE TOO FUNNY.
DING DONG


MARY JANE WATSON. ANNA WATSON'S NIECE. THE SORT OF GIRL I PICTURED AS "SHE HAS VERY NICE FRIENDS" AND "SHE MAKES HOMEMADE SOUP" AND "SHE CAN KNIT."
WHY... HERE SHE IS NOW...
BELIEVE ME, ALL THAT WAS ON MY MIND WAS, HOW LONG COULD IT TAKE? I'D BE POLITE AND GREET THIS NICE WHATEVER AND BE ON MY WAY AND MAYBE, JUST MAYBE, I'D BE A LITTLE LATE AND GWEN WOULD UNDERSTAND.

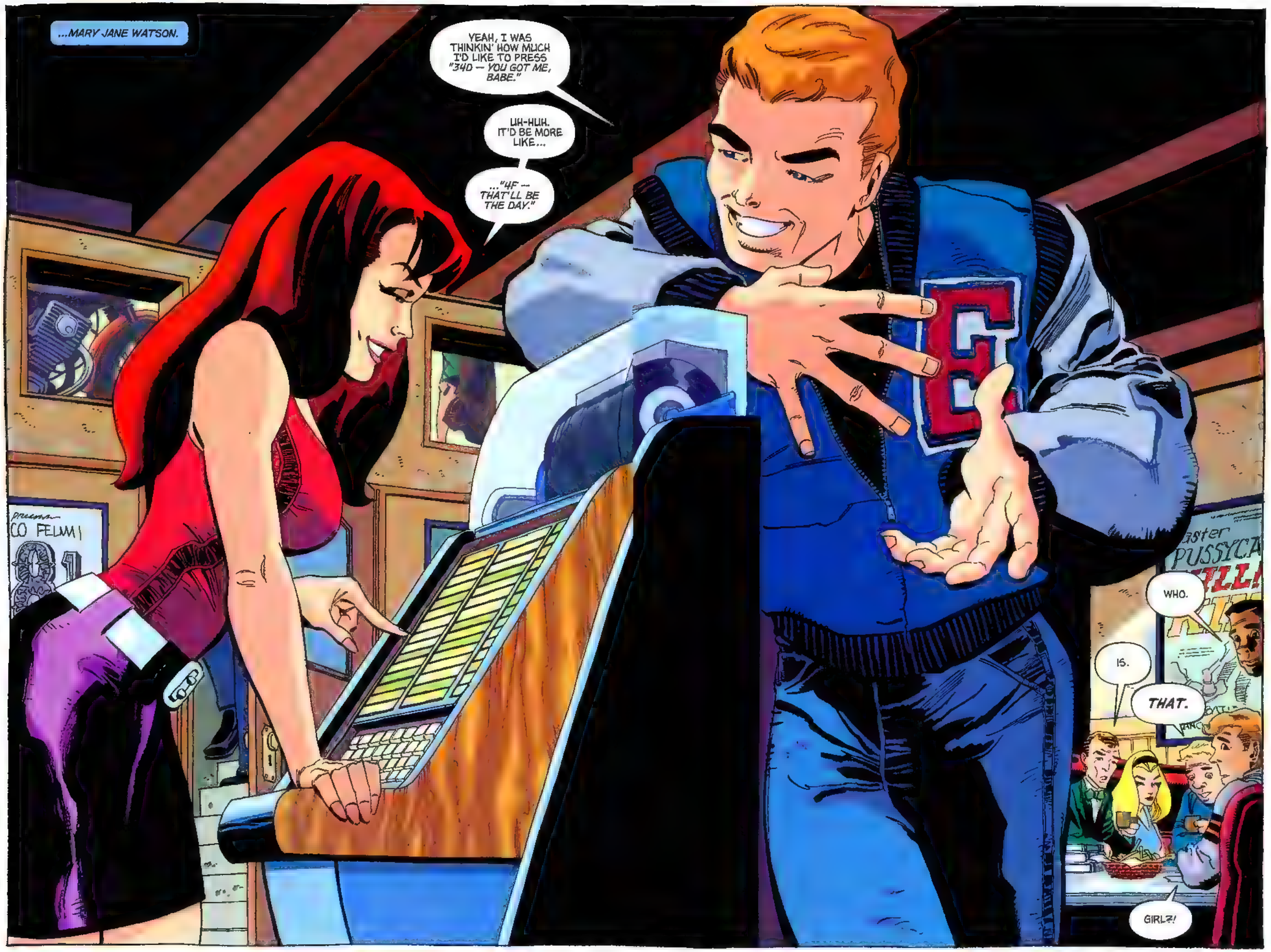
PETER, THIS IS MARY JANE WATSON.
HOW LONG...

...COULD IT...
YOU'RE MARY JANE WATSON?

...TAKE...?
FACE IT, TIGER...

YOU JUST HIT THE JACKPOT!
AND ALL AT ONCE, GWEN...
...I DIDN'T THINK THAT YOU'D UNDERSTAND AT ALL...
=KLIK=
LOEB SALE 2002

BOOK THREE:
anything goes
ƷKLIKƷ ƷWHRRRƷ UM...
ƷKLIKƷ
ƷKLIKƷ ƷWHRRRƷ UM...
ƷKLIKƷ
ƷKLIKƷ ƷWHRRRƷ OKAY, I CAN SPIN A WEB ANY SIZE...I SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO...UH...THIS...
ƷKLIKƷ
ƷKLIKƷ ƷWHRRRƷ YOU SEE, WHEN I STARTED OUT MAKING THESE TAPES... I KNEW WE WERE GOING TO GET TO THIS PART, GWEN.
I MEAN, EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE NEVER GONNA HEAR THIS... SOMEONE WILL. AND I'M SURE THEY'RE GOING TO ASK WHAT KIND OF IDIOT TALKS ABOUT ONE BEAUTIFUL GIRL TO ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL GIRL...?
AND, UH, THE ANSWER IS... THIS KIND OF IDIOT. ME. PETER PARKER.
SEE ANYTHING YOU LIKE?
BECAUSE YOU REALLY CAN'T TELL THE STORY OF HOW GWEN STACY AND I FELL IN LOVE WITHOUT TALKING ABOUT...


...MARY JANE WATSON.
YEAH, I WAS THINKIN' HOW MUCH I'D LIKE TO PRESS "34D — YOU GOT ME, BABE."
UH-HUH. IT'D BE MORE LIKE...
..."4F — THAT'LL BE THE DAY."
WHO.
IS.
THAT.
GIRLZ!

HEY. DON'T YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
YOU'RE FLASH THOMPSON, B.M.O.C....
WELL, YEAH. AND...?
YOU'RE FLASH THOMPSON, B.M.O.C....
HUH?

HELLO, HARRY.
HAVE WE...UH... MET?
OH, C'MON, EVERYBODY'S WILD ABOUT YOU.
REALLY --
AND I CAN SEE WHY.
WHY?
YOU GONNA EAT ALL THOSE FRENCH FRIES?

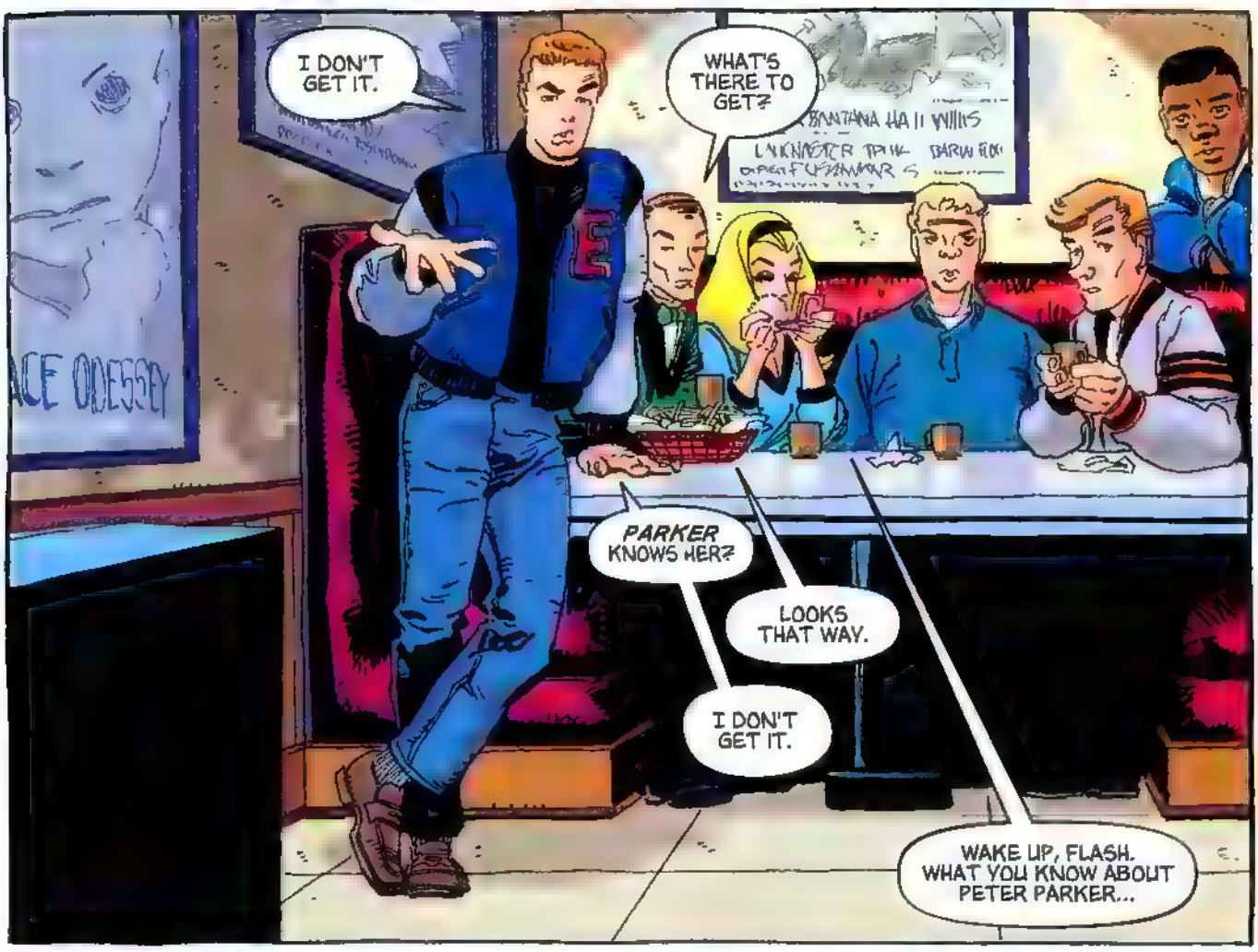
NOW, I DON'T WANT YOU TO THINK I BROUGHT MARY JANE AROUND TO SHOW HER OFF OR... WELL, WHATEVER YOU MIGHT HAVE THOUGHT.
IT WAS MORE LIKE... AN OBLIGATION, OKAY? BECAUSE SHE WAS MY AUNT MAY'S BEST FRIEND'S NIECE. I MEAN, IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO, RIGHT?
AND YOU'VE GOTTA BE --
MJ...?

SORRY I WAS LATE. GUESS YOU FOUND THE PLACE OKAY?
HELLO, PETEY. HAVE A FRENCH FRY.
I WAS JUST GETTING TO KNOW THE GANG.
REALLY. THEN I GUESS I DON'T HAVE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO...

SHE'S QUITE THE GIRL, "PETEY."
WHERE *HAVE* YOU BEEN KEEPING HER?

UM...HI. GWEN.
THIS IS SOME SET-UP, GIRL.
LOVE THE GUY-TO-GAL RATIO.
MY KIND OF PLACE.

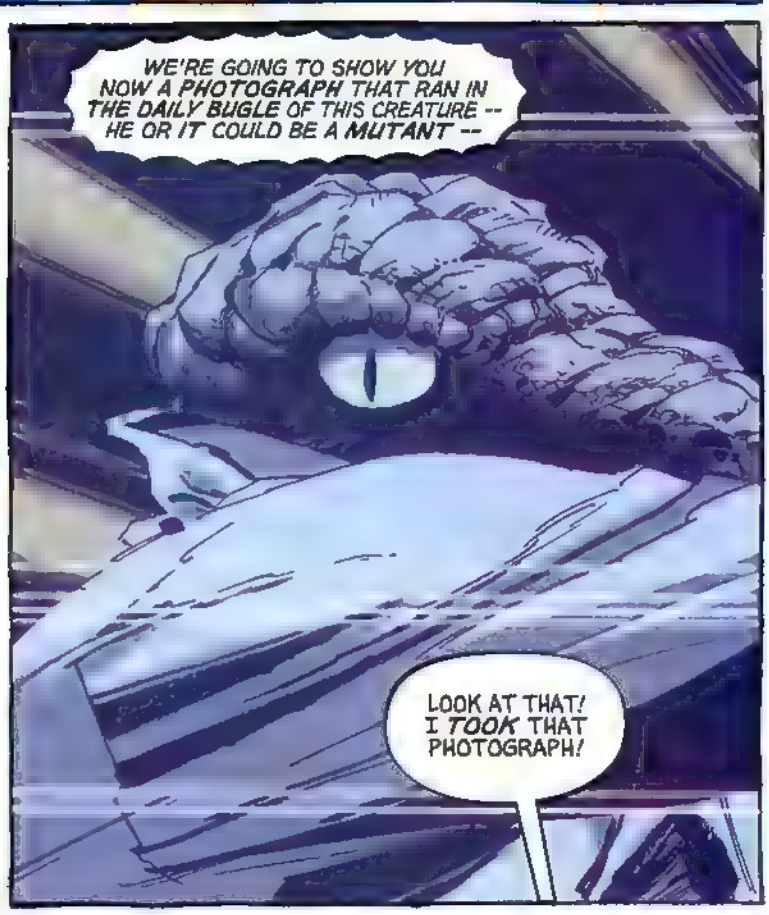
BUY ME A CUP OF TEA, WILL YOU, PETEY?
SURE.
LATTE
CAPPUCCINO
Espresso
TIPS!


I DON'T GET IT.
WHAT'S THERE TO GET?
PARKER KNOWS HER?
LOOKS THAT WAY.
I DON'T GET IT.
WAKE UP, FLASH. WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT PETER PARKER...

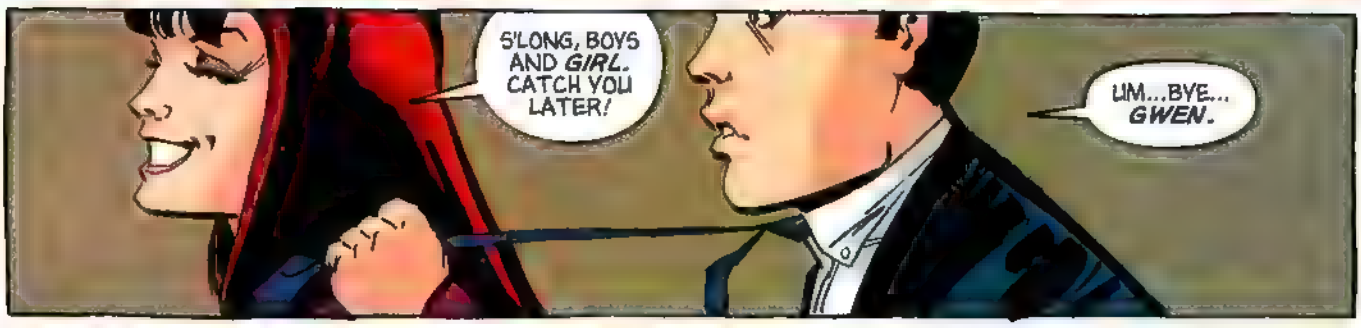
...COULDN'T FILL A THIMBLE.
I STILL DON'T GET IT.

SO...THAT'S GWEN STACY.
SHE'S GORGEOUS...
UH... YEAH.
MJ...
...IF YOU LIKE THAT SORT OF BLOND GORGEOUS LOOK.
WHERE WAS THE RADIOACTIVE MAN WHEN YOU REALLY NEEDED HIM?

AND WHEN WAS I EVER GOING TO LEARN TO BE CAREFUL WHAT I WISH FOR?
...WE'RE COMING TO YOU "LIVE" FROM PENN STATION WHERE POLICE ARE SEARCHING FOR THE SO-CALLED "LIZARD."
LIVE


WE'RE GOING TO SHOW YOU NOW A PHOTOGRAPH THAT RAN IN THE DAILY BUGLE OF THIS CREATURE -- HE OR IT COULD BE A MUTANT --
LOOK AT THAT! I TOOK THAT PHOTOGRAPH!

WELL, FAR BE IT FOR *ME* TO TELL *YOU* HOW TO DO YOUR JOB --
-- BUT ISN'T THIS WHAT YOU'D CALL A *"PHOTO OP"*?
WELL, YEAH, BUT -- LOOK, MJ, I'M *WITH* YOU AND --
-- AND YOU'RE STILL GOING TO BE, HANDSOME. I'M GOING *WITH* YOU. SOUNDS EXCITING!
I AM?
YOU ARE?
IT DOES?


S'LONG, BOYS AND *GIRL*. CATCH YOU LATER!
UM...BYE... *GWEN*.

'BYE, PETER.
SO... PARKER *KNOWS* HER...?

I GUESS I COULD JUST PLEAD INSANITY AND THROW MYSELF ON THE MERCY OF THE COURT. I MEAN, YOU WERE JUST STARTING TO NOTICE ME, GWEN, AND OH, BOY, I BROUGHT IN THE "OH, GIRL"...
WHEEEHAH! C'MON, PETE-O! CAN'T THIS THING MOVE ANY FASTER?!
MARY JANE WATSON. ANYTHING GOES.

HOW YOU DOIN'?

ME? *UN*HAPPY.

AND HOW CAN NEW YORK'S FINEST MAKE YOU *HAPPY?*

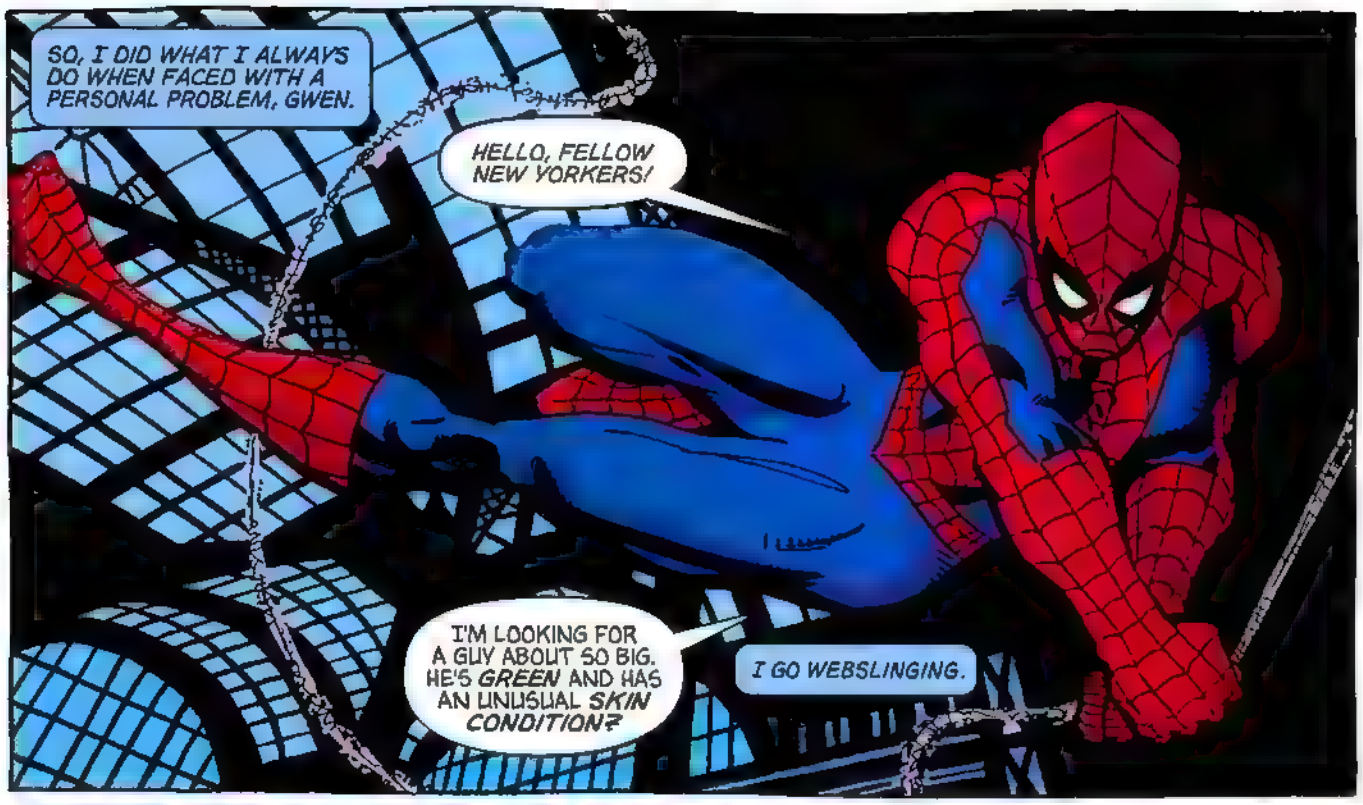
CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CRI

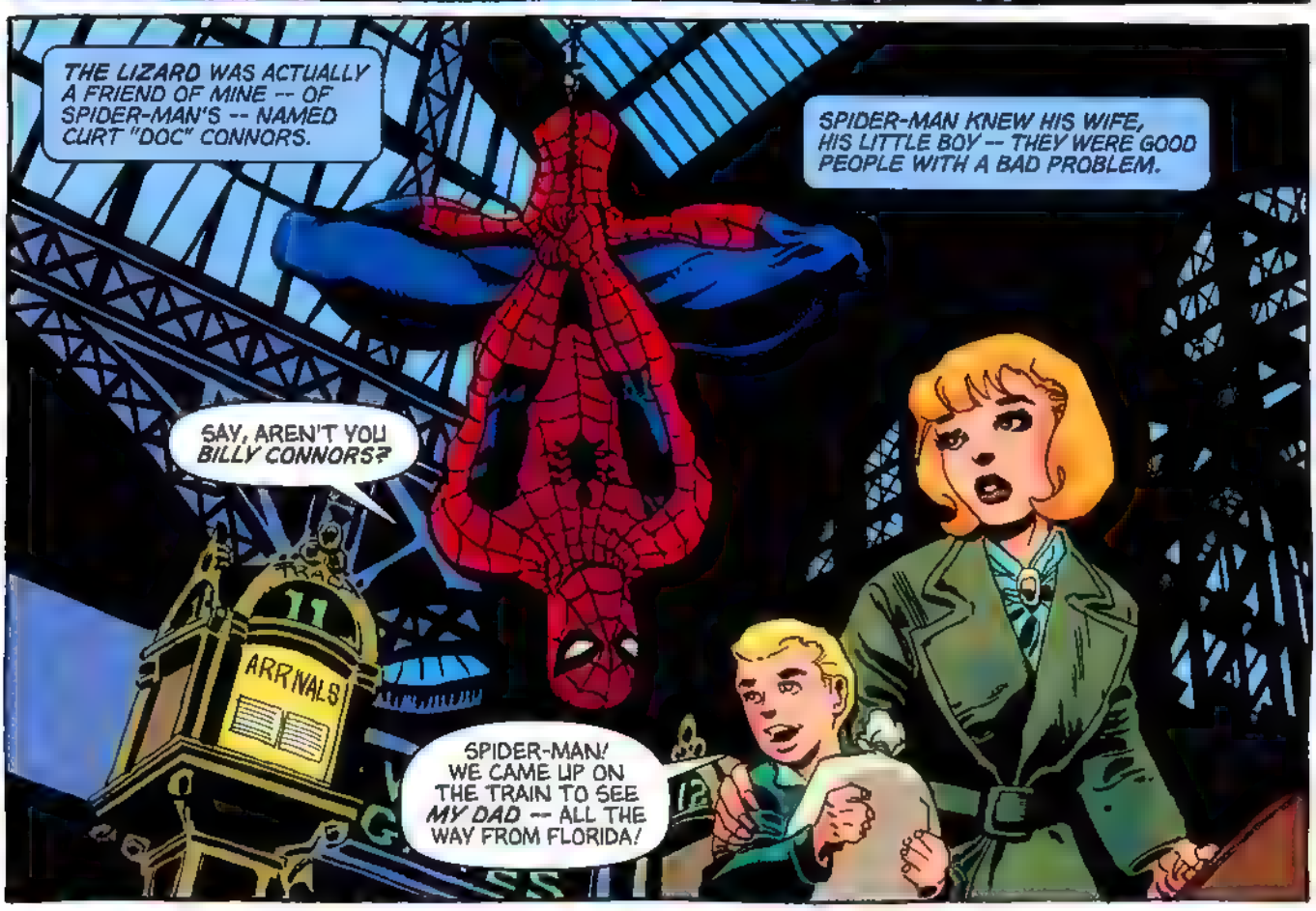
I MEAN, THIS IS KIND OF A DRAG, ISN'T IT? I'VE GOT PLACES TO GO AND PEOPLE TO SEE...

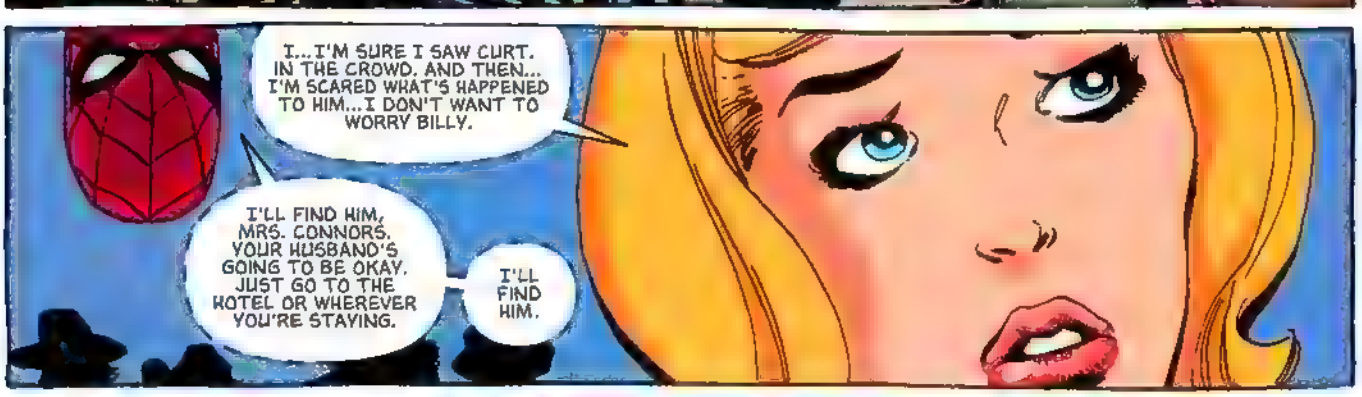
I THINK IT WAS RIGHT ABOUT THEN, I REALIZED, THAT EVEN THOUGH HER DISTRACTION GOT ME INSIDE THE POLICE LINE --

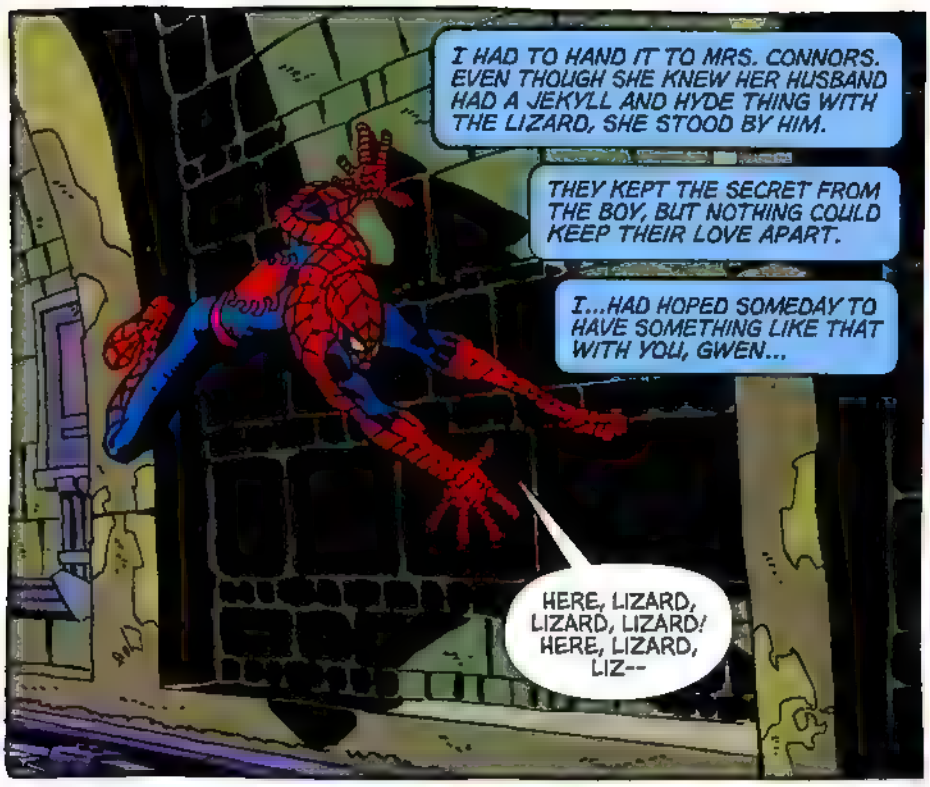
*-- MJ WAS **ALWAYS** GOING TO BE THE CENTER OF ATTENTION --*

-- AND I WASN'T QUITE SURE HOW I FELT ABOUT THAT...


SO, I DID WHAT I ALWAYS DO WHEN FACED WITH A PERSONAL PROBLEM, GWEN.
HELLO, FELLOW NEW YORKERS!
I'M LOOKING FOR A GUY ABOUT SO BIG. HE'S GREEN AND HAS AN UNUSUAL SKIN CONDITION?
I GO WEBSLINGING.


THE LIZARD WAS ACTUALLY A FRIEND OF MINE -- OF SPIDER-MAN'S -- NAMED CURT "DOC" CONNORS.
SPIDER-MAN KNEW HIS WIFE, HIS LITTLE BOY -- THEY WERE GOOD PEOPLE WITH A BAD PROBLEM.
SAY, AREN'T YOU BILLY CONNORS?
ARRIVALS
SPIDER-MAN! WE CAME UP ON THE TRAIN TO SEE MY DAD -- ALL THE WAY FROM FLORIDA!

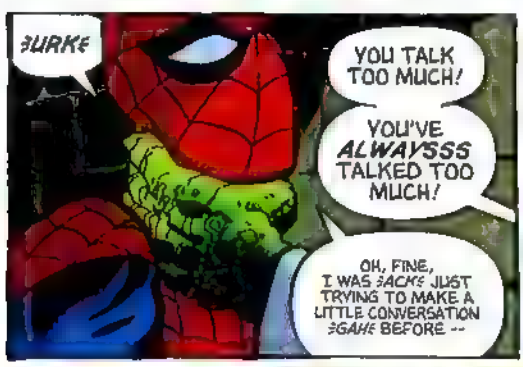

I...I'M SURE I SAW CURT. IN THE CROWD. AND THEN... I'M SCARED WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM...I DON'T WANT TO WORRY BILLY.
I'LL FIND HIM, MRS. CONNORS. YOUR HUSBAND'S GOING TO BE OKAY. JUST GO TO THE HOTEL OR WHEREVER YOU'RE STAYING.
I'LL FIND HIM.

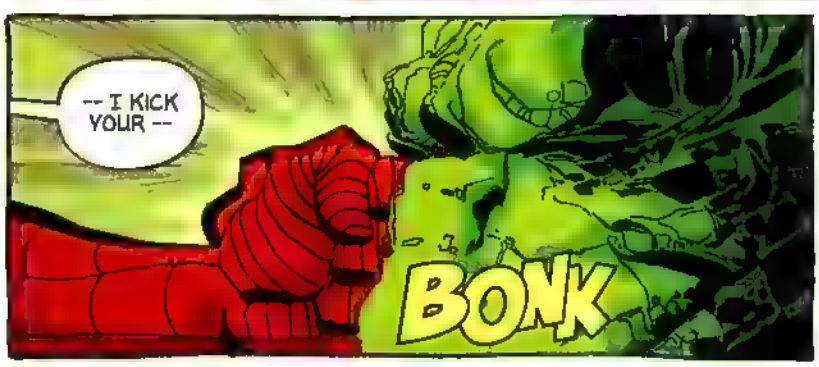

I HAD TO HAND IT TO MRS. CONNORS. EVEN THOUGH SHE KNEW HER HUSBAND HAD A JEKYLL AND HYDE THING WITH THE LIZARD, SHE STOOD BY HIM.
THEY KEPT THE SECRET FROM THE BOY, BUT NOTHING COULD KEEP THEIR LOVE APART.
I...HAD HOPED SOMEDAY TO HAVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT WITH YOU, GWEN...
HERE, LIZARD, LIZARD, LIZARD! HERE, LIZARD, LIZ--

HSSSSS
SPIDEY-SENSE -- I COULD KISS YOU!

sSSSPIDER-MAN!

HEY, LIZZY, GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT. I HAD ALWAYS HEARD ABOUT THOSE GIANT *CROCODILES* LIVING IN THE NEW YORK SEWERS --
WHAM
-- Y'KNOW, THE ONES THAT GOT THERE 'CAUSE KIDS FLUSHED THEIR PETS DOWN THE TOILET AND THEY GOT ALL BIG AND UGLY.
IS THAT HOW *YOU* GOT HERE? SOME YOUNGSTER FLUSH YOU DOWN THE TOILET AND --
-- I REALIZE *PENN STATION* ISN'T A SEWER. I MEAN, IT ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE --


GURKE
YOU TALK TOO MUCH!
YOU'VE *ALWAYSSS* TALKED TOO MUCH!
OH, FINE, I WAS *SACKS* JUST TRYING TO MAKE A LITTLE CONVERSATION *SGAME* BEFORE --

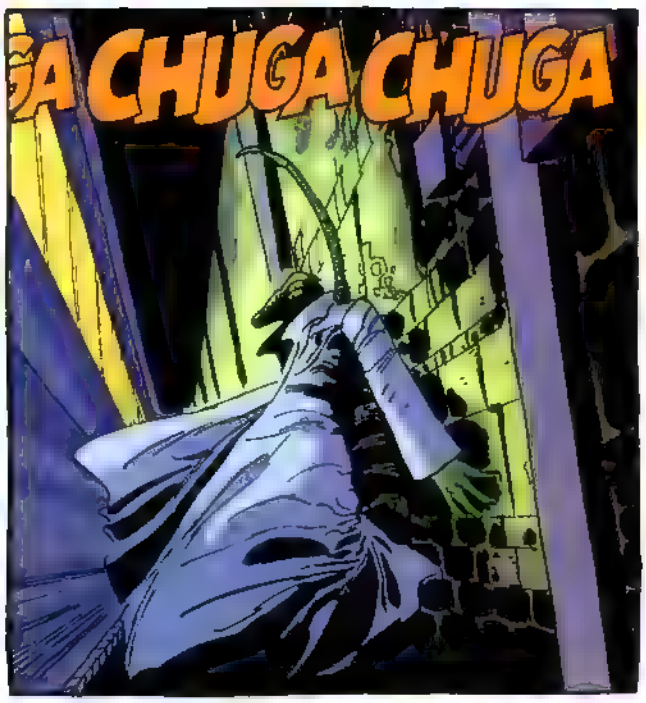

-- I KICK YOUR --
BONK

THWAK!
sSSSILENCE!
UNNNGH!

DO YOU SSSEE THAT TRAIN, SSSPIDER-MAN?
CHUGA CHUGA CHUGA CHUGA

THINK OF THAT TRAIN ASSSS *EVOLUTION* IN ACTION.
JUST ASSSS THE *DINOSAUR* PASSSSED AWAY SSSSO *MAN* COULD RULE THE PLANET...
...THE TIME HAS COME FOR *REPTILES* TO RETURN TO THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACE ASSSS --
CHUGA CHU

AND YOU THINK *I* TALK TOO MUCH? *YEESH!*
KRAK
=MWAUGH=
CHUGA CHUGA CHUGA



CHUGA CHUGA CHUGA CHUGA CHUGA CHUGA CHUGA

COME WITH ME. I CAN LEAD YOU TO SAFETY.

WHY? WHY WOULD YOU HELP ME...?

BECAUSE WE WANT THE SAME THING.

THE DEATH OF SPIDER-MAN.

THAT'SSS *NOT* WHAT I WANT. YOU KNOW *NOTHING* OF WHAT I WANT.

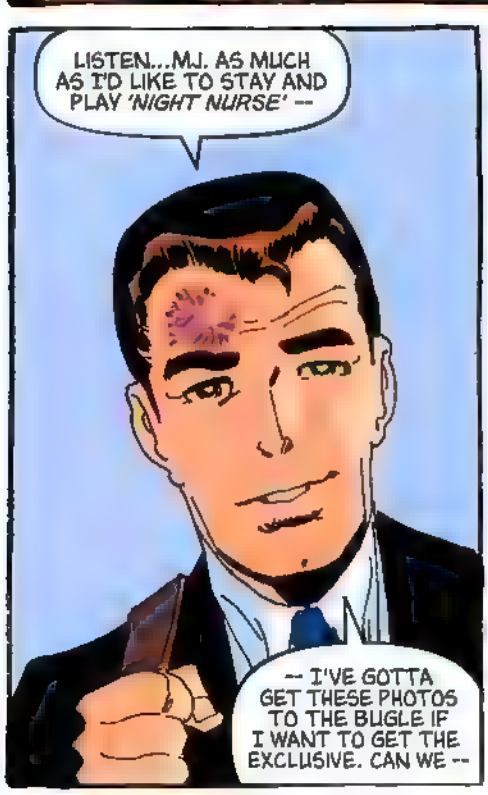
I *WILL* FOLLOW YOU OUT OF HERE, BUT IF YOU OR SSSSPIDER-MAN OR *ANYONE* INTERFERESSSS WITH MY PLANSSS...

...THEN I WILL KILL YOU ALL...

SO, WE SHALL SEE...

I'VE GOT SOME GREAT SHOTS, MJ -- AND I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT --
-- WHAT'S THE MATTER?
DID SOMEONE THROW YOU DOWN A FLIGHT OF STAIRS?
OH, WELL, Y'KNOW, IT CAN GET KIND OF ROUGH OUT THERE -- THE CROWDS -- SPIDER-MAN EVEN SHOWED UP AND --
C'MERE...
WHY...?
COMBAT DUTY DESERVES A LITTLE HAZARD PAY.

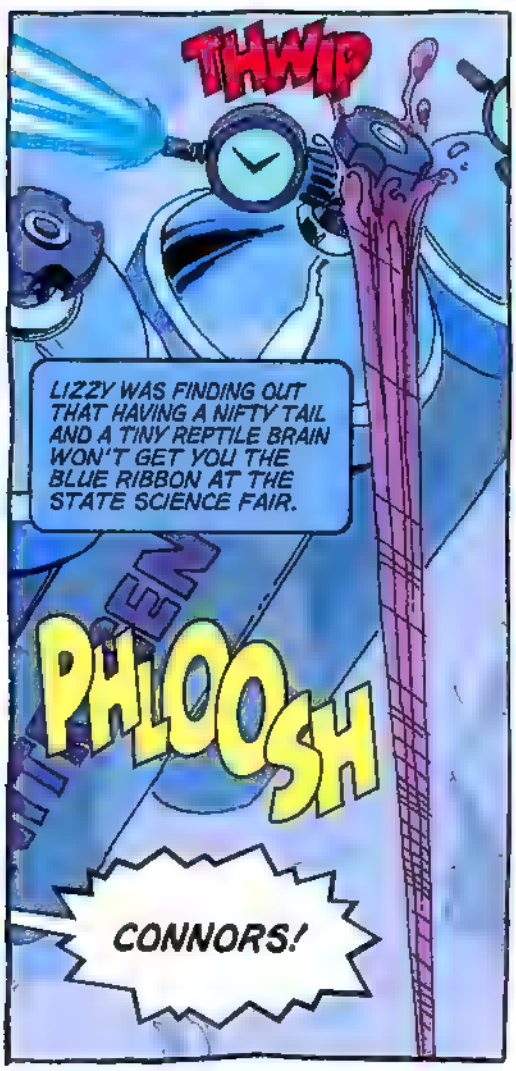
IF I KNEW I WAS WORKING ON THE REWARD SYSTEM, I MIGHT HAVE THROWN MYSELF IN FRONT OF A TRAIN.
SWAK
WHATEVER MAKES MY GUY HAPPY.
"MY GUY?" SHE CALLED ME HER "GUY." YOU'VE GOT TO UNDERSTAND, GWEN, OKAY, MAYBE YOU DON'T HAVE TO UNDERSTAND, BUT...
...WHEN A GIRL SAYS THAT, GUYS TAKE IT A CERTAIN WAY. AND WHEN YOU'RE DEALING WITH A GIRL LIKE MJ... WELL...ER...WHERE WAS I?


LISTEN...MJ. AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO STAY AND PLAY 'NIGHT NURSE' --
-- I'VE GOTTA GET THESE PHOTOS TO THE BUGLE IF I WANT TO GET THE EXCLUSIVE. CAN WE --

GO. DUTY CALLS!
DO YOU NEED A RIDE --?
I'VE GOT NO NEEDS, TIGER. AS YOU'RE SURE TO FIND OUT, WHERE MJ GOES --
-- THE PARTY GOES!

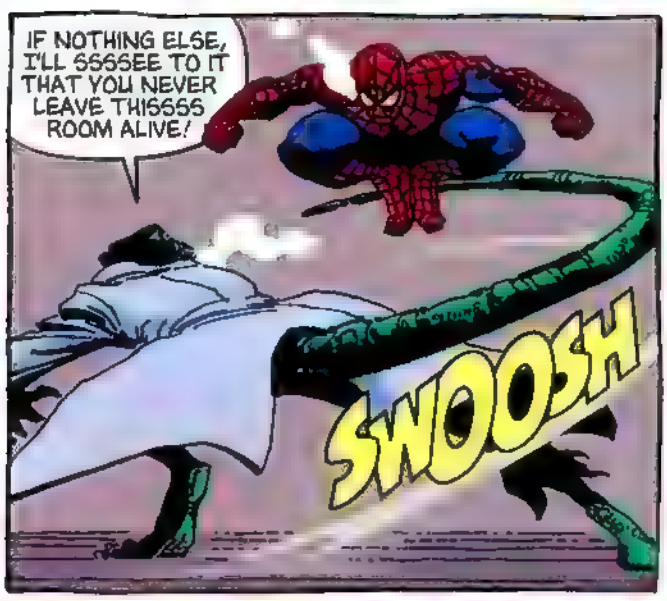
SO MUCH FOR "MY GUY"...

NOW, AS STRANGE AS IT SEEMS, THE LIZARD DIDN'T KNOW HE ACTUALLY WAS DOC CONNORS.
ALL HE KNEW WAS THAT CONNORS HAD ACCESS TO CHEMICALS THAT COULD MAKE MORE REPTILE CREATURES, DNA, THAT SORT OF THING.
SO, THERE WAS ONLY ONE PLACE HE WOULD HAVE SLITHERED OFF TO...
...THE GOOD DOCTOR'S PRIVATE LABORATORY.
NITROGEN
NO! ALL THESE SSSCRIBBLESSS AND FORMULASSS ARE MEANINGLESSSS! IT'S CONNORS I WANT!
CONNORS!


THWIP
LIZZY WAS FINDING OUT THAT HAVING A NIFTY TAIL AND A TINY REPTILE BRAIN WON'T GET YOU THE BLUE RIBBON AT THE STATE SCIENCE FAIR.
PHLOOSH
CONNORS!

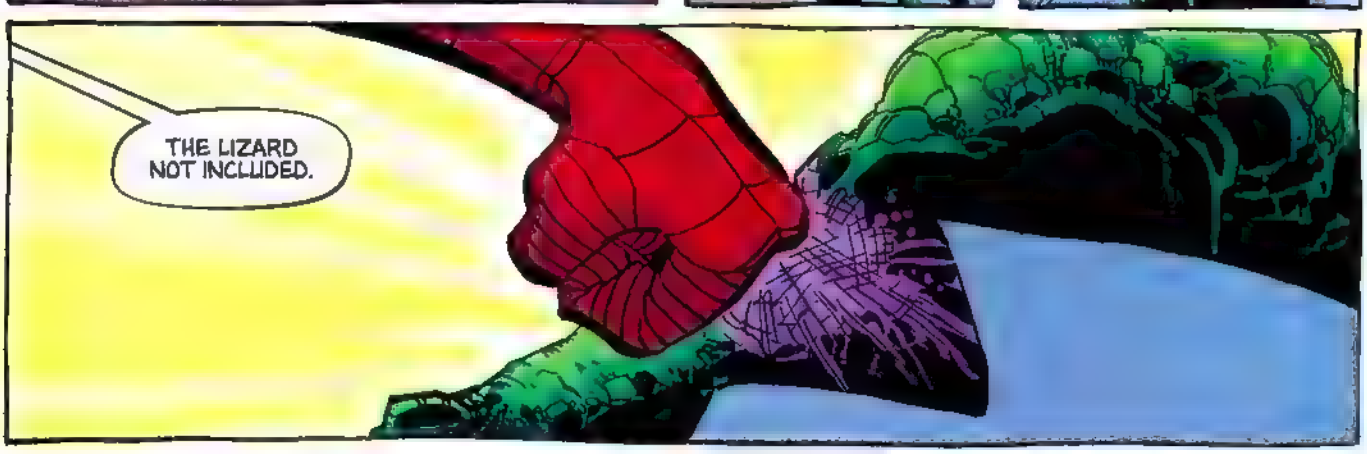
CONNORS? CONNORS? NO, WE'RE SORRY, LIZZY, THERE'S NO CONNORS HERE RIGHT NOW.
BUT WE DO HAVE SOME LOVELY PARTING GIFTS FOR OUR SCALY FRIEND!
POW
TELL 'IM, SPIDEY!

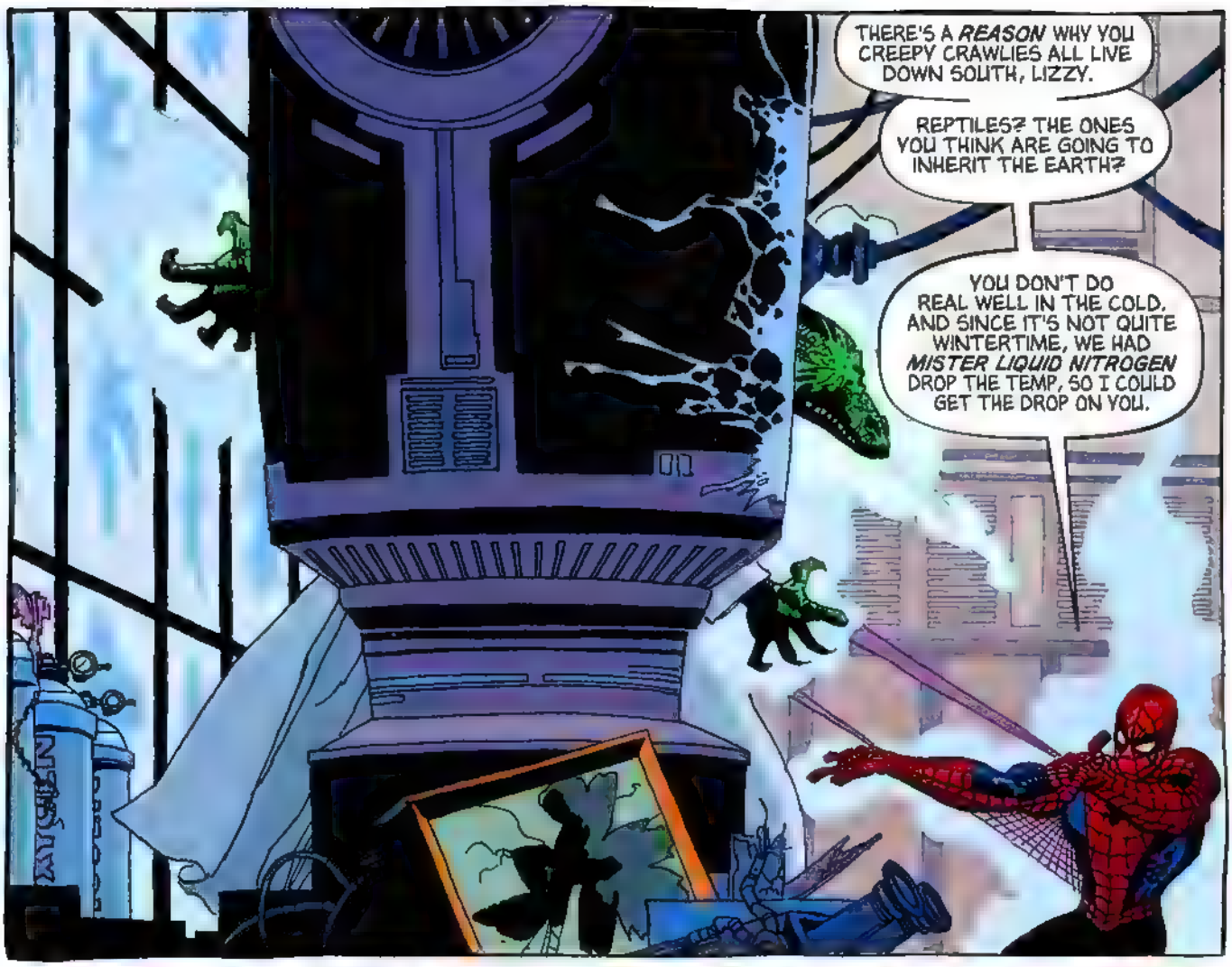
WELL, FIRST OFF, WE HAVE THE HOME GAME VERSION OF "BEAT THE PANTS OFF THE LIZARD!"
BAM

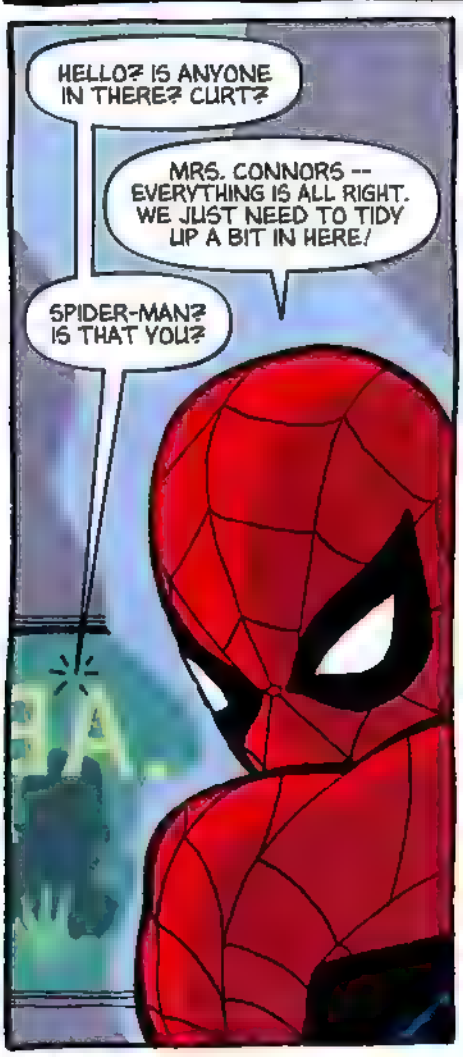

IF NOTHING ELSE, I'LL SSSSEE TO IT THAT YOU NEVER LEAVE THISSSS ROOM ALIVE!
SWOOSH

COMES COMPLETE WITH YOUR VERY OWN SPIDER-SENSE, SO YOU WON'T GET CAUGHT BY THAT DARN SWINGING TAIL!
AND THERE'S PLENTY OF OUR PATENTED SPIDER-MAN WEBBING TO REALLY GUNK UP YOUR LIZARD!
FLUG

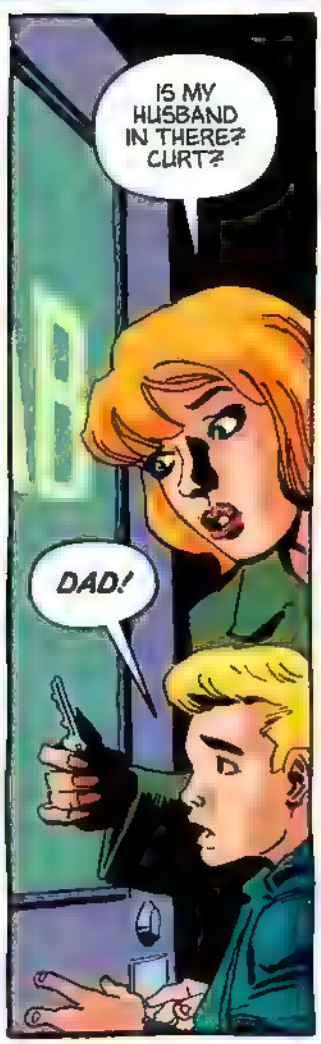
WHAT -- WHAT'SSSS HAPPENING TO ME -- WHY -- AM I -- SSSSO... SSSSLOW...
NOT AVAILABLE IN STORES. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. FLORIDA, OHIO AND UTAH ADD ADDITIONAL SALES TAX.
THWIP
THWIP


THE LIZARD NOT INCLUDED.


THERE'S A *REASON* WHY YOU CREEPY CRAWLIES ALL LIVE DOWN SOUTH, LIZZY.
REPTILES? THE ONES YOU THINK ARE GOING TO INHERIT THE EARTH?
YOU DON'T DO REAL WELL IN THE COLD. AND SINCE IT'S NOT QUITE WINTERTIME, WE HAD *MISTER LIQUID NITROGEN* DROP THE TEMP, SO I COULD GET THE DROP ON YOU.

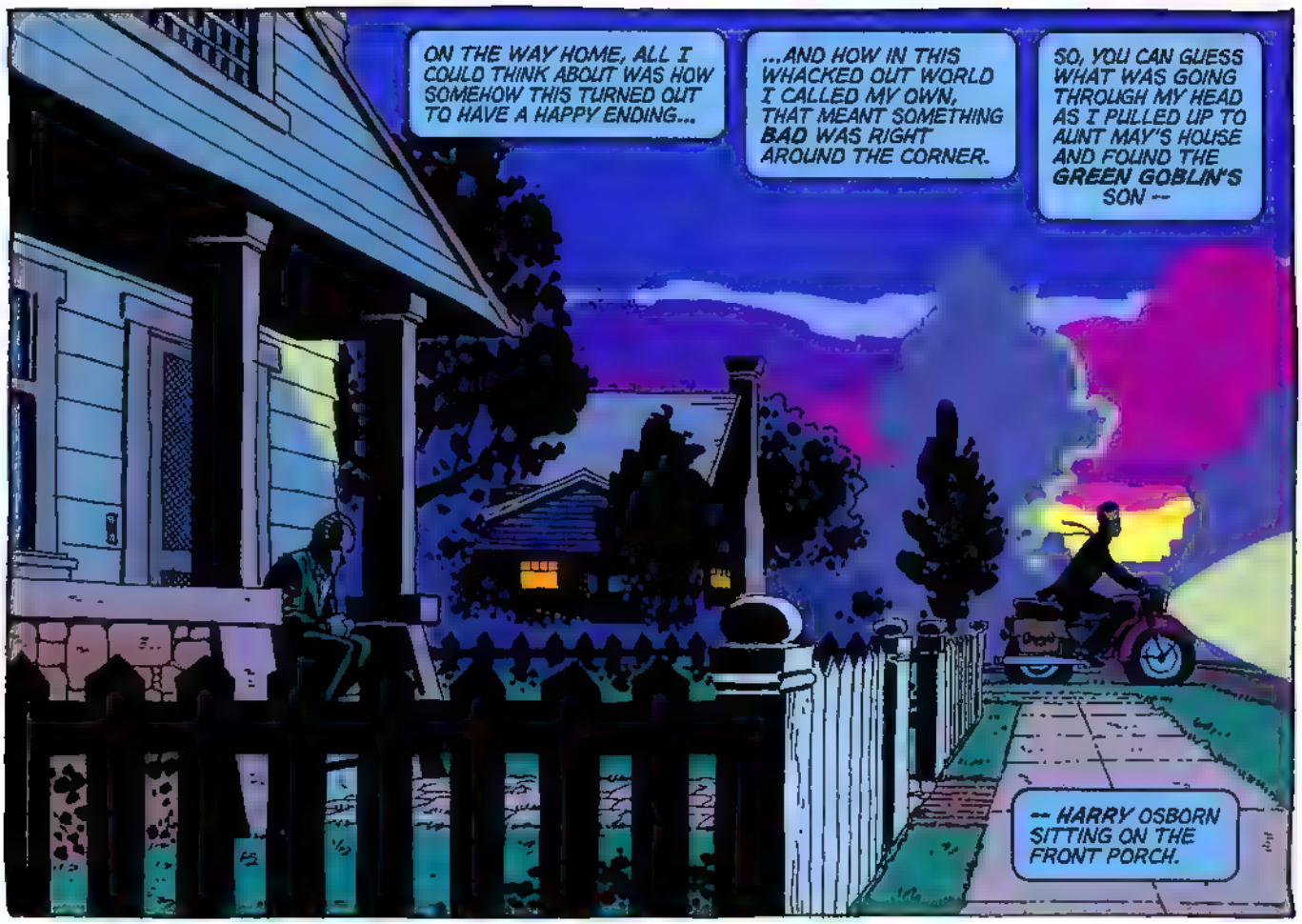

HELLO? IS ANYONE IN THERE? CURT?
MRS. CONNORS -- EVERYTHING IS ALL RIGHT. WE JUST NEED TO TIDY UP A BIT IN HERE!
SPIDER-MAN? IS THAT YOU?

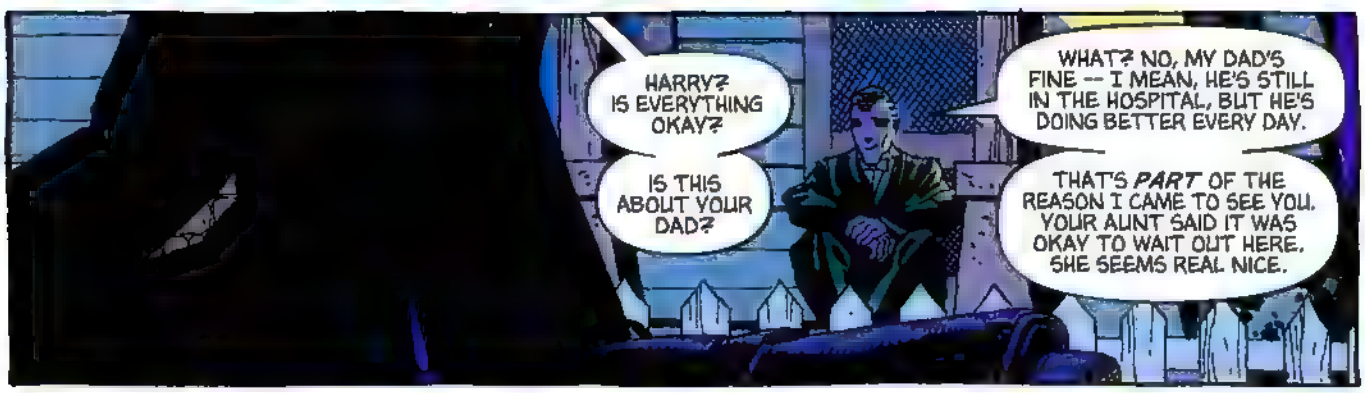
THAT'S RIGHT, MRS. CONNORS. IT'S YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!


IS MY HUSBAND IN THERE? CURT?
DAD!

GREAT. SHE BROUGHT *THE BOY* WITH HER, TOO. GUESS THIS HAD *BETTER* WORK!

I'M COMING IN!
HEY, THERE, TRUE BELIEVERS...
CURT!
DAD!
HI.
SORRY THIS PLACE IS SUCH A MESS, WE WERE WORKING ON SOMETHING THAT WENT OUT OF CONTROL AND --
-- NOBODY'S REALLY LISTENING TO ME, ARE THEY?
OKAY... WELL... THIS IS ME, LEAVING.
THERE GOES A REAL HERO.
I WISH THERE WAS SOME WAY TO REPAY HIM FOR ALL HIS HELP.
WHAT COULD *WE* DO, MOM? SOMEBODY LIKE SPIDER-MAN HAS IT ALL!

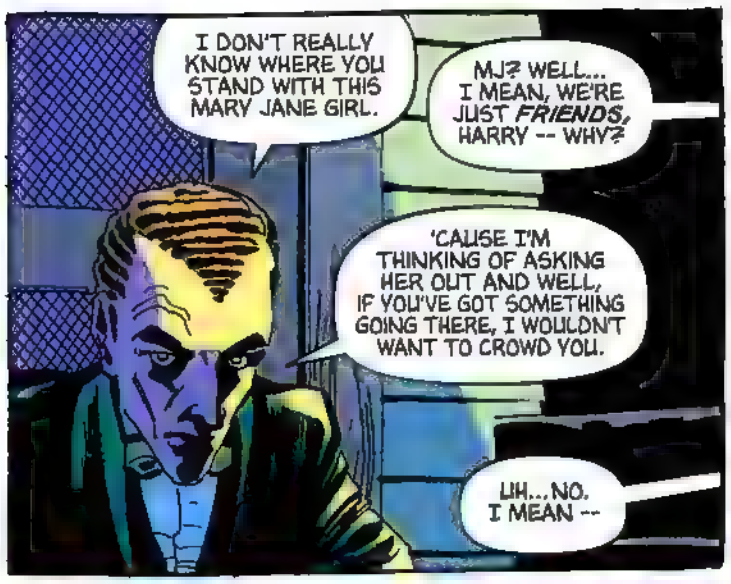

ON THE WAY HOME, ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT WAS HOW SOMEHOW THIS TURNED OUT TO HAVE A HAPPY ENDING...
...AND HOW IN THIS WHACKED OUT WORLD I CALLED MY OWN, THAT MEANT SOMETHING BAD WAS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER.
SO, YOU CAN GUESS WHAT WAS GOING THROUGH MY HEAD AS I PULLED UP TO AUNT MAY'S HOUSE AND FOUND THE GREEN GOBLIN'S SON --
-- HARRY OSBORN SITTING ON THE FRONT PORCH.


HARRY? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?
IS THIS ABOUT YOUR DAD?
WHAT? NO, MY DAD'S FINE -- I MEAN, HE'S STILL IN THE HOSPITAL, BUT HE'S DOING BETTER EVERY DAY.
THAT'S PART OF THE REASON I CAME TO SEE YOU. YOUR AUNT SAID IT WAS OKAY TO WAIT OUT HERE. SHE SEEMS REAL NICE.

HARRY. WHAT'S YOUR FATHER'S CONDITION GOT TO DO WITH ME?

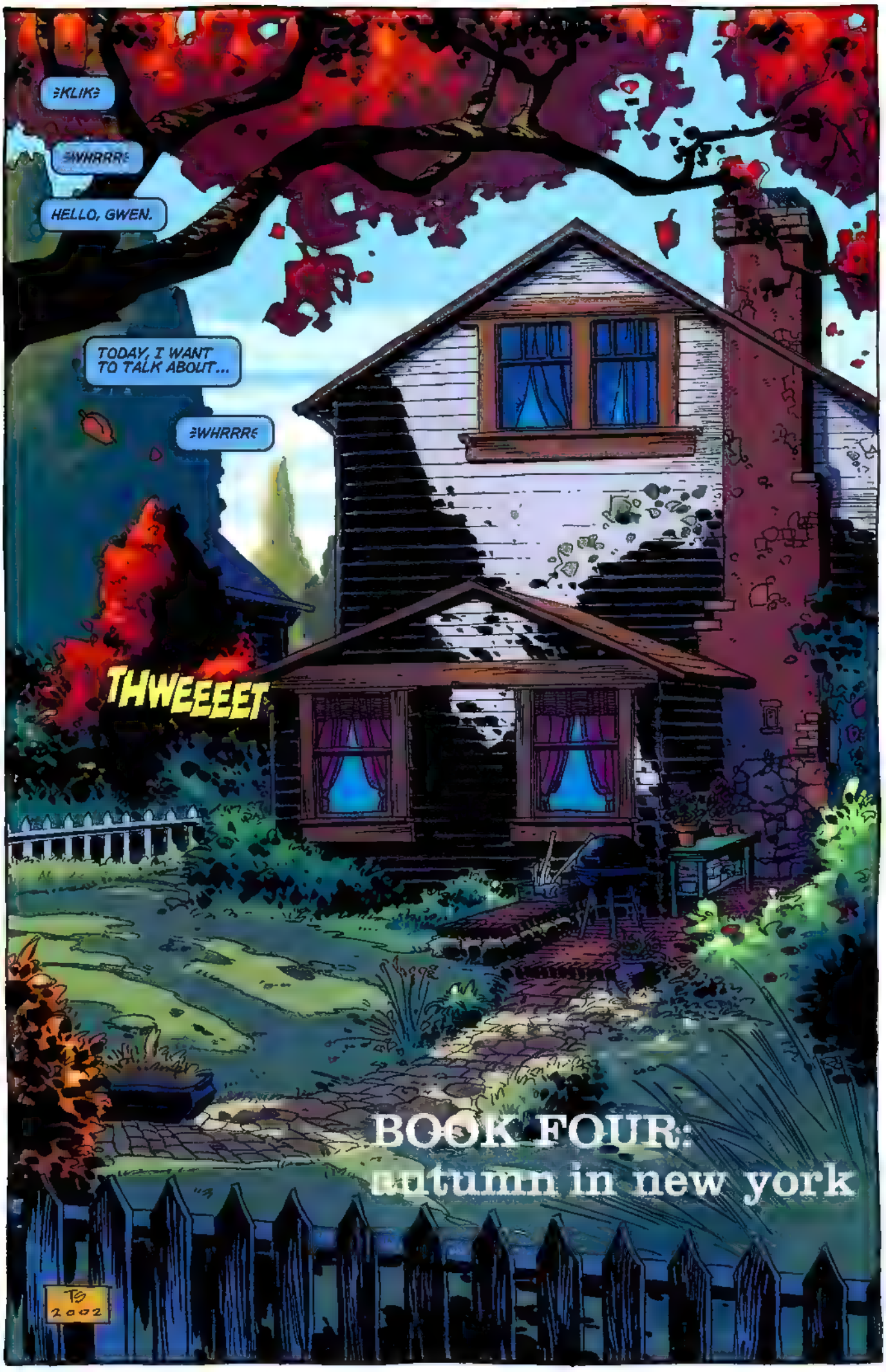
HEY, IT'S NO BIG DEAL. IN FACT, IT MIGHT TURN OUT TO BE THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO YOU.
ME?
WITH MY DAD IN THE HOSPITAL, ONE OF HIS APARTMENTS IN THE CITY IS JUST GOING EMPTY AND, WELL, I KNOW YOU GOT THE SWEET DEAL OUT HERE WITH YOUR AUNT --
-- BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT TO MOVE IN NEAR CAMPUS. BE ROOMMATES.
ROOMMATES? HARRY, I CAN'T AFFORD --
-- DON'T SWEAT IT, FRIEND. MY DAD OWNS THE PLACE. WE'RE LIVING RENT-FREE.
I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT. MY OWN PLACE? IF ONLY AUNT MAY WOULD UNDERSTAND -- IF ONLY --

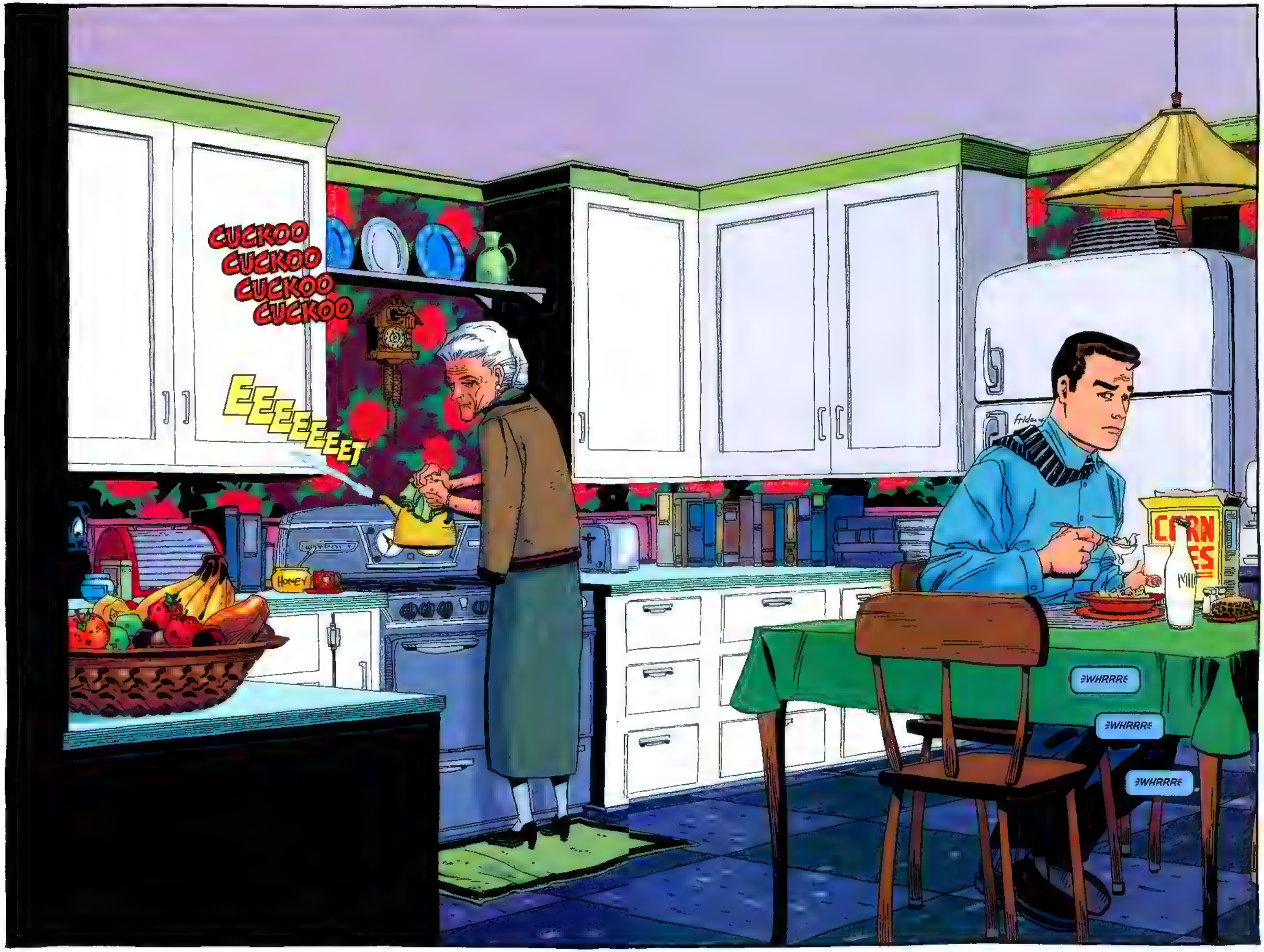
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
THEN, SAY "YES," YOU LUNKHEAD.
IT'S ALL SET, BUT THERE'S ONE THING I GOTTA FIND OUT FIRST.


I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHERE YOU STAND WITH THIS MARY JANE GIRL.
MJ? WELL... I MEAN, WE'RE JUST FRIENDS, HARRY -- WHY?
'CAUSE I'M THINKING OF ASKING HER OUT AND WELL, IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING GOING THERE, I WOULDN'T WANT TO CROWD YOU.
UH... NO. I MEAN --

HARRY, ABOUT THE APARTMENT. LET ME TALK TO MY AUNT --
SURE, PAL. BUT ACT FAST. AND THANKS FOR THE TIP ON MJ.
WITH THE WAY GWEN HAS BEEN GIVING YOU THE EYE, THIS IS ALL GONNA WORK OUT GREAT, PETE. YOU'LL SEE.
WAIT. WHAT --?
PETER?

COME ON INSIDE/ DINNER IS GETTING COLD.
DO YOU NEED A SWEATER?
PETER...?
=KLIK=
LOEB SALE 2002

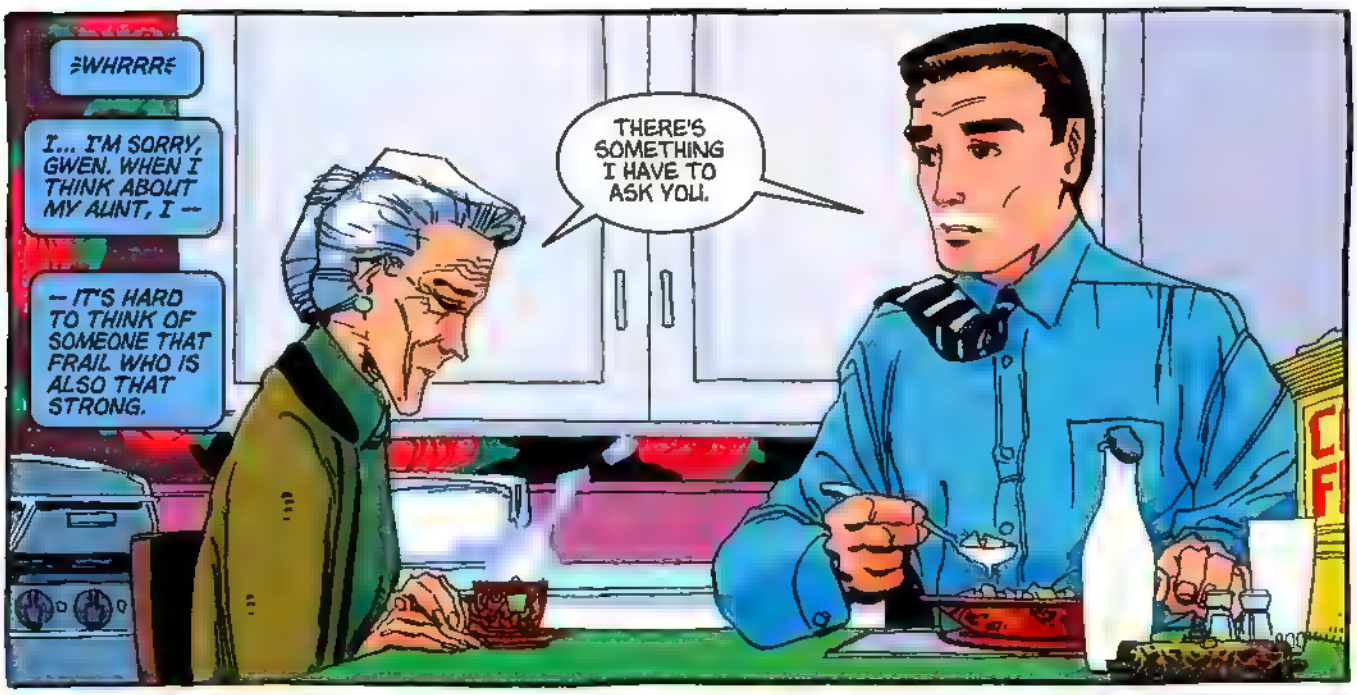

KLIK
WHRRR
HELLO, GWEN.
TODAY, I WANT TO TALK ABOUT...
WHRRR
THWEEEET
BOOK FOUR:
autumn in new york
TS 2002

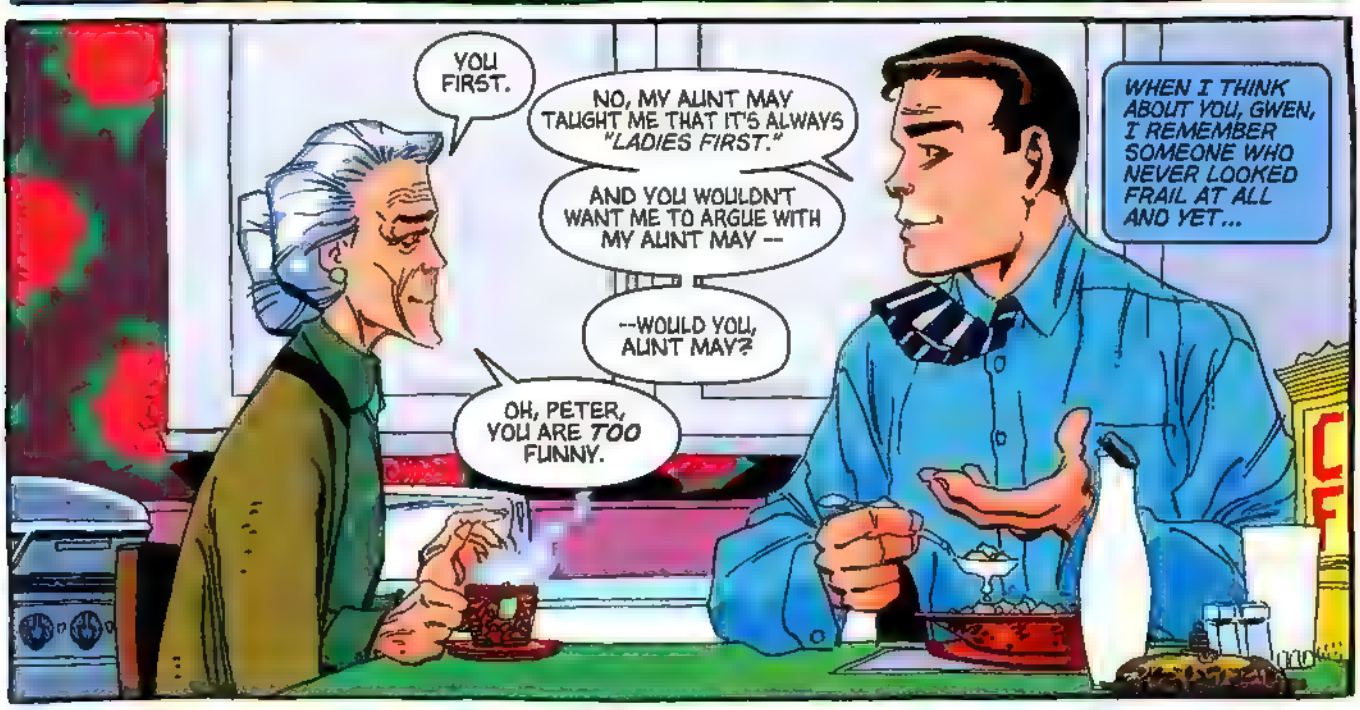

CUCKOO
CUCKOO
CUCKOO
CUCKOO
EEEEEEEET
HONEY
WHRRRR
WHRRRR
WHRRRR

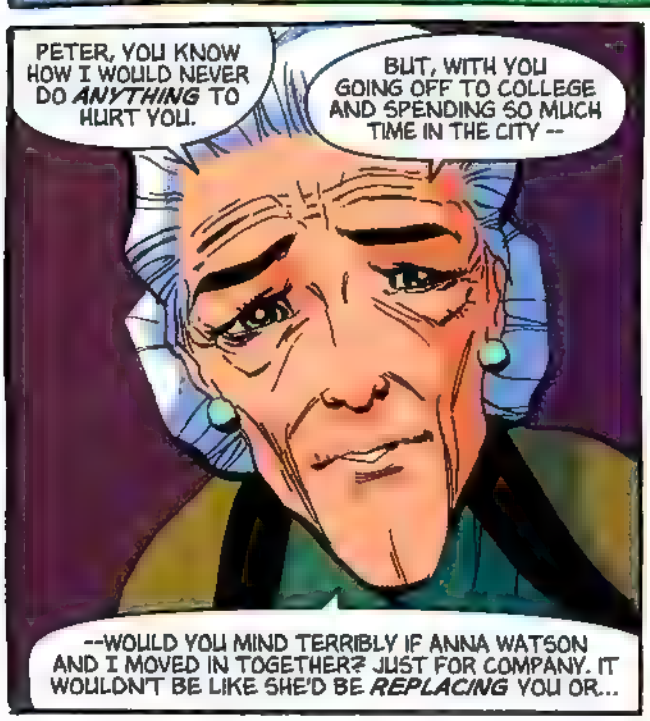
CUCKOO
PHLUP
HONE
WHRRRE

CUCKOO
CLKINK
HONE
WHRRRE

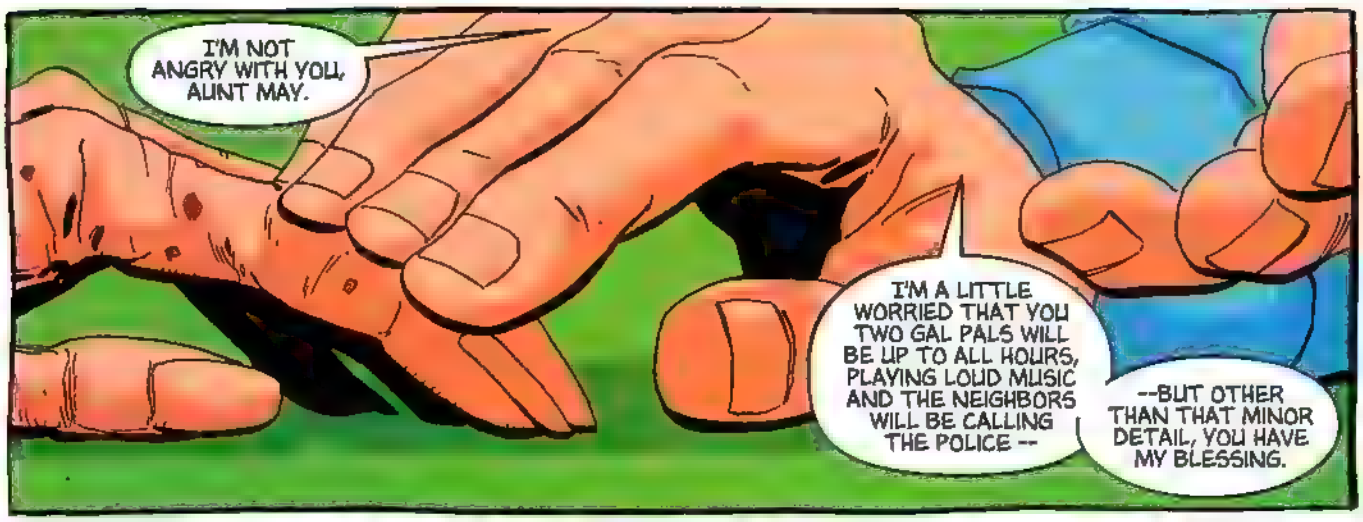
CUCKOO
HONE
WHRRRE
...AUNT MAY.
CORN FLAKES

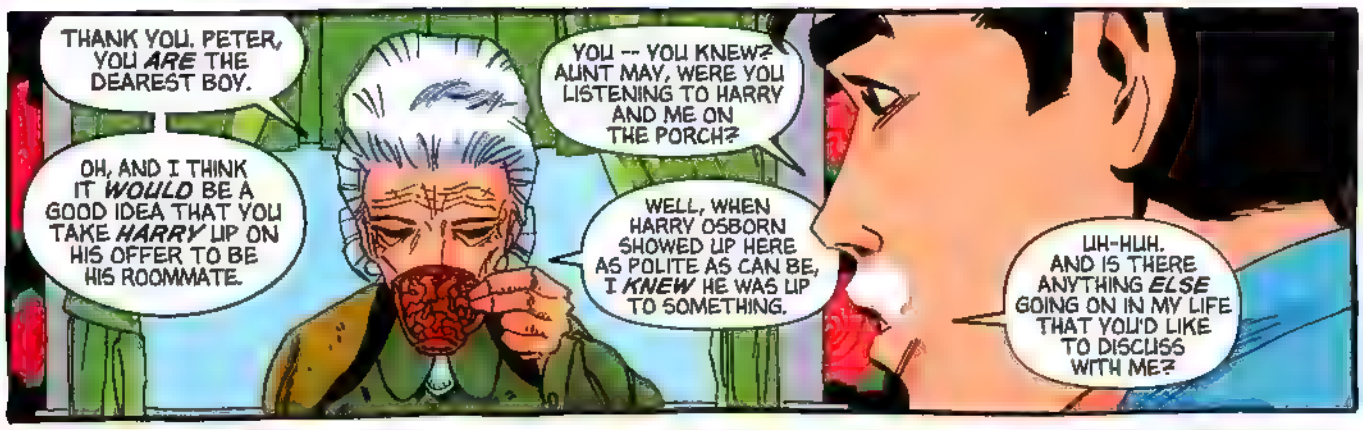

WHRRRE
I... I'M SORRY, GWEN. WHEN I THINK ABOUT MY AUNT, I --
-- IT'S HARD TO THINK OF SOMEONE THAT FRAIL WHO IS ALSO THAT STRONG.
THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO ASK YOU.


YOU FIRST.
NO, MY AUNT MAY TAUGHT ME THAT IT'S ALWAYS "LADIES FIRST."
AND YOU WOULDN'T WANT ME TO ARGUE WITH MY AUNT MAY --
--WOULD YOU, AUNT MAY?
OH, PETER, YOU ARE TOO FUNNY.
WHEN I THINK ABOUT YOU, GWEN, I REMEMBER SOMEONE WHO NEVER LOOKED FRAIL AT ALL AND YET...


PETER, YOU KNOW HOW I WOULD NEVER DO ANYTHING TO HURT YOU.
BUT, WITH YOU GOING OFF TO COLLEGE AND SPENDING SO MUCH TIME IN THE CITY --
--WOULD YOU MIND TERRIBLY IF ANNA WATSON AND I MOVED IN TOGETHER? JUST FOR COMPANY. IT WOULDN'T BE LIKE SHE'D BE REPLACING YOU OR...

PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY WITH ME, PETER. THAT WOULD BE THE LAST THING I WOULD EVER WANT TO HAPPEN.
I NEVER, EVER, THOUGHT I WOULD BE BURYING YOU BEFORE HER.
IT'S JUST NOT THE WAY LIFE IS SUPPOSED TO WORK.


I'M NOT ANGRY WITH YOU, AUNT MAY.
I'M A LITTLE WORRIED THAT YOU TWO GAL PALS WILL BE UP TO ALL HOURS, PLAYING LOUD MUSIC AND THE NEIGHBORS WILL BE CALLING THE POLICE --
--BUT OTHER THAN THAT MINOR DETAIL, YOU HAVE MY BLESSING.


THANK YOU. PETER, YOU ARE THE DEAREST BOY.
OH, AND I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA THAT YOU TAKE HARRY UP ON HIS OFFER TO BE HIS ROOMMATE.
YOU -- YOU KNEW? AUNT MAY, WERE YOU LISTENING TO HARRY AND ME ON THE PORCH?
WELL, WHEN HARRY OSBORN SHOWED UP HERE AS POLITE AS CAN BE, I KNEW HE WAS UP TO SOMETHING.
UH-HUH. AND IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE GOING ON IN MY LIFE THAT YOU'D LIKE TO DISCUSS WITH ME?

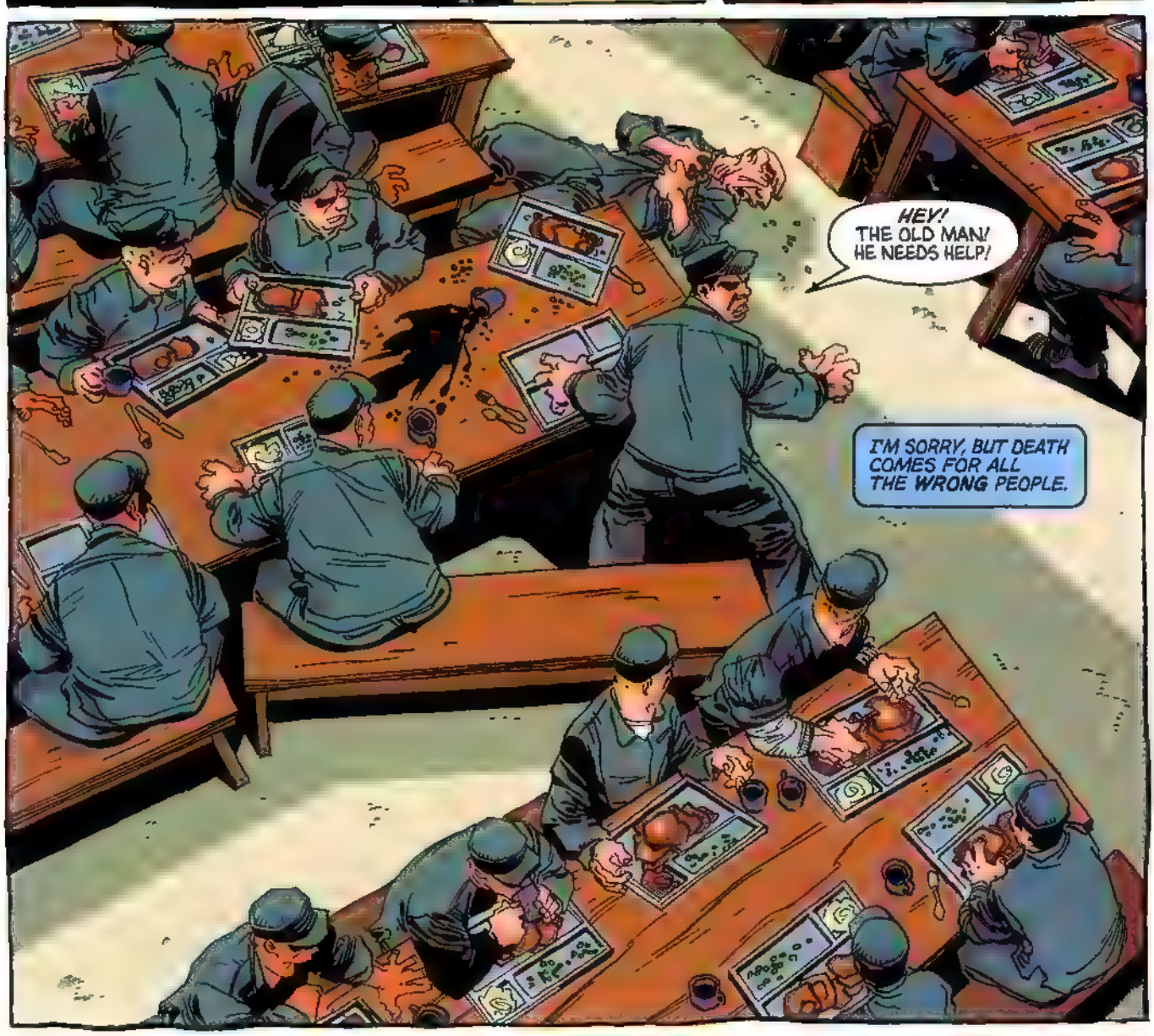
YOU HAVE ONE OF THOSE "MILK MOUSTACHES."
OH.

BETTER?
MUCH.
ANYTHING ELSE?

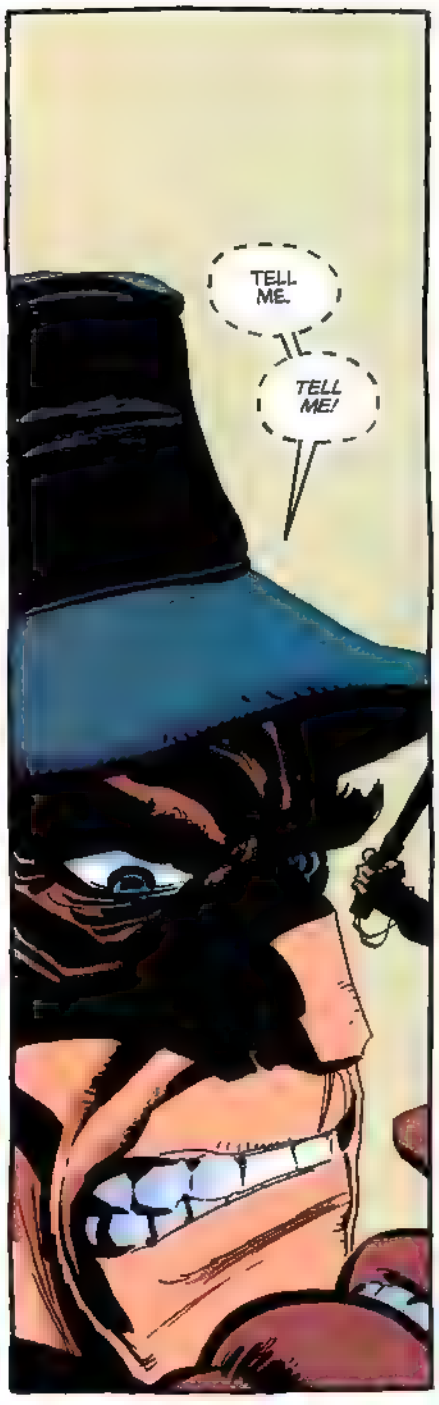
OH, IT'S NOT REALLY ANY OF MY BUSINESS...
DON'T LET THAT STOP YOU, AUNT MAY!
WELL, IF YOU DON'T WANT HARRY DATING MARY JANE WATSON, YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD HIM SO.
I DON'T CARE HOW COOL A BACHELOR PACK HE HAS.
PAD.
HMM...?
IT'S NOT CALLED A "BACHELOR PACK," AUNT MAY. IT'S A "BACHELOR PAD."
YES, DEAR...
BUT, THEN AGAIN, MY LIFE HASN'T EVER WORKED THE WAY IT'S SUPPOSED TO. BAD BEFORE GOOD, REMEMBER?

AND LOSING YOU, GWEN, WAS BEYOND BAD. IT WAS THE WORST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME.
EVEN MY UNCLE BEN WOULD UNDERSTAND HOW I COULD SAY THAT.
WARNING
CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
ONLY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL
BEYOND THIS POINT

ACKK!


HEY! THE OLD MAN! HE NEEDS HELP!
I'M SORRY, BUT DEATH COMES FOR ALL THE WRONG PEOPLE.

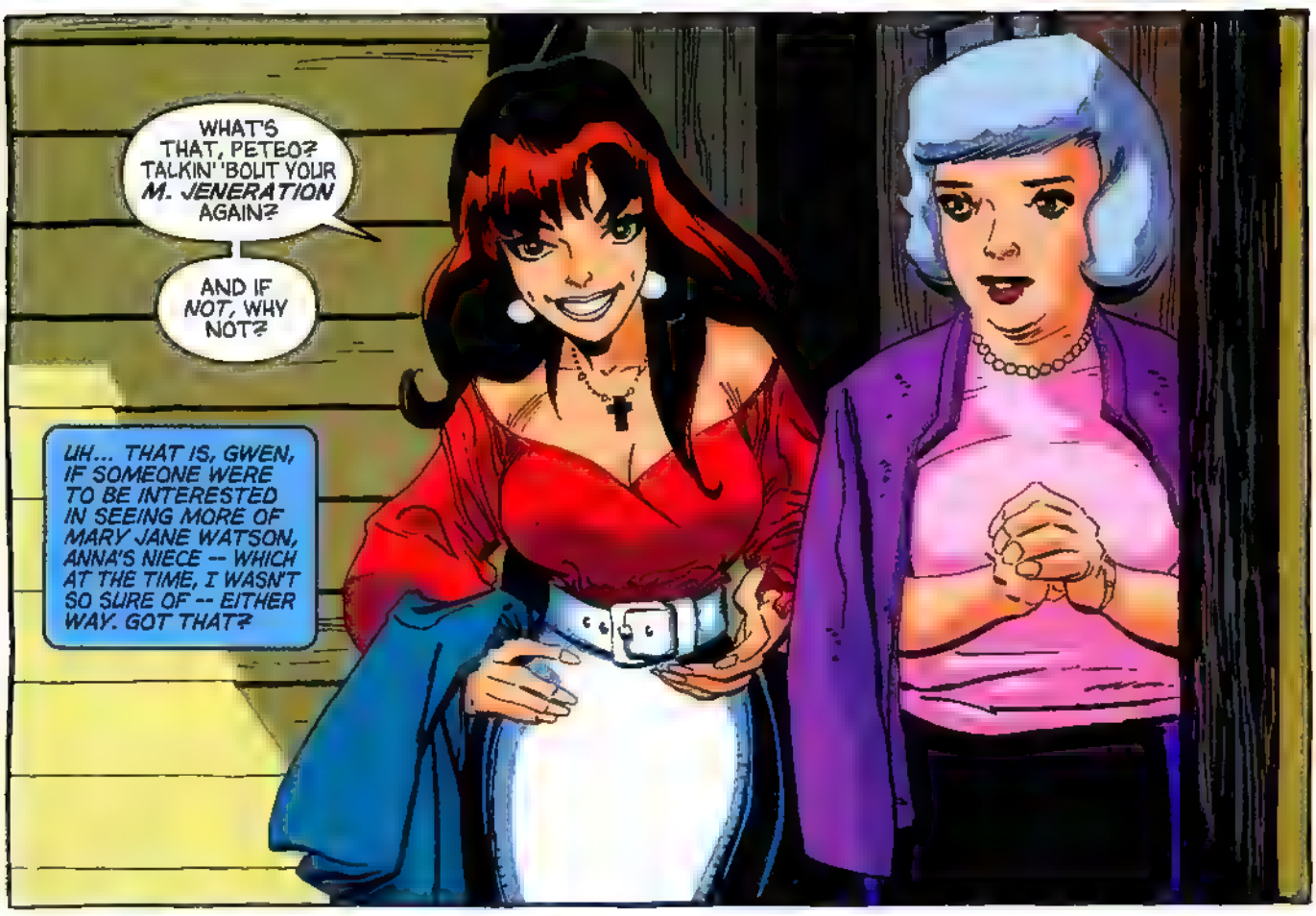
LISTEN TO ME, VULTURE. YOU'RE HAVING SOME KIND OF HEART ATTACK OR SOMETHING.
IF YOU WERE EVER GONNA TELL ME, NOW'S THE TIME.
...DOCTOR...


TELL ME.
TELL ME!

STEP ASIDE, BLACKIE. WE'LL HANDLE IT FROM HERE.
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET A SECOND WARNING. GET YOUR HANDS IN THE AIR AND BACK AWAY.
..DO. DO YOU KNOW THE OLD MILL BRIDGE...?
SURE. SURE.
...LEFT A SPARE SET OF WINDS. HALF MILE OUT... UNDER THE BRIDGE. SOUTH SIDE...

THUMPHK!
SHOULD'VE LISTENED LIKE YOU WERE TOLD, BLACKIE. YOU BROUGHT THIS ON YOURSELF...
HELP HIM INTO AN EARLY GRAVE IS MORE LIKE IT!
LET GO OF ME! I WAS ONLY TRYIN' TO HELP THE GUY!

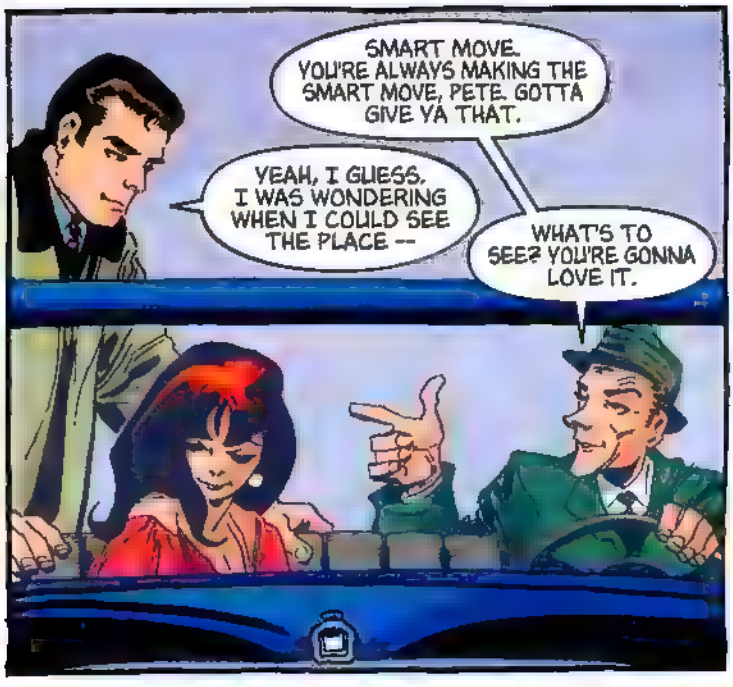
NOW, I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT, AT FIRST, THE IDEA OF AUNT MAY ROOMING WITH ANNA WATSON HAD SOME OBVIOUS ADVANTAGES.
Y'KNOW, PETER, A GIRL LIKE MARY JANE WATSON ISN'T GOING TO SIT AT HOME AND WAIT FOR THE PHONE TO RING.
NO, AUNT MAY, I'M WILLING TO BET THAT MJ HAS HER OWN ANSWERING SERVICE.


WHAT'S THAT, PETEO? TALKIN' 'BOUT YOUR M. JENERATION AGAIN?
AND IF NOT, WHY NOT?
UH... THAT IS, GWEN, IF SOMEONE WERE TO BE INTERESTED IN SEEING MORE OF MARY JANE WATSON, ANNA'S NIECE -- WHICH AT THE TIME, I WASN'T SO SURE OF -- EITHER WAY. GOT THAT?

HOW'S MY GUY?
YOUR... GUY IS FINE. MORE THAN FINE.
MJ, LISTEN, IF YOU'RE NOT BUSY --

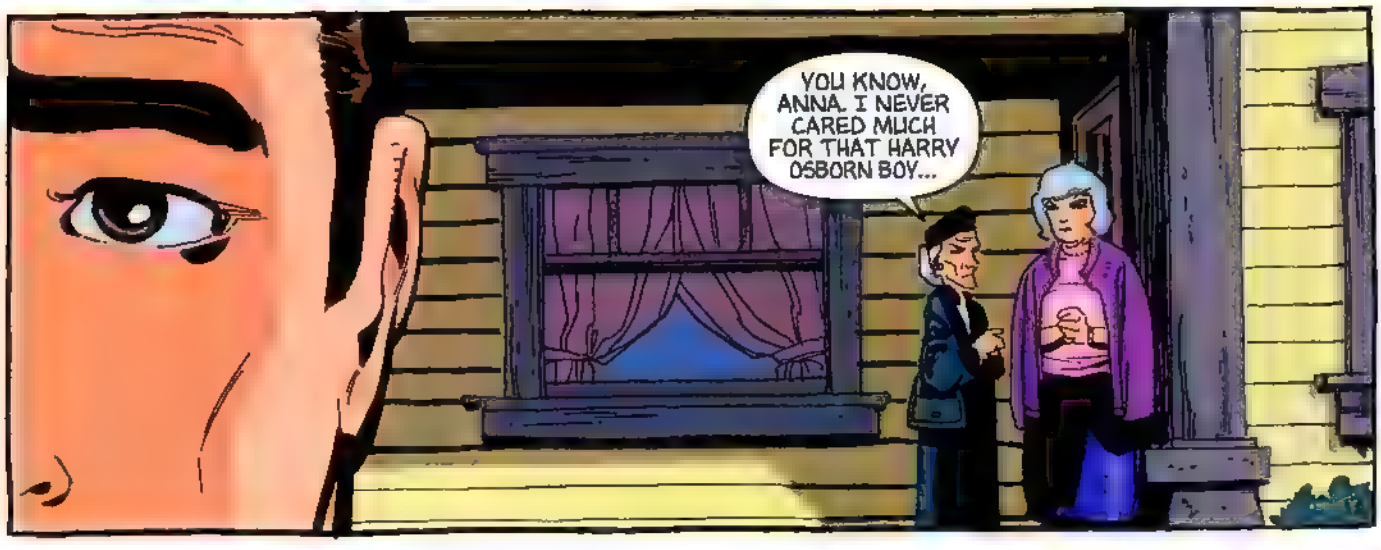
HONK! HONK!
C'MON, MJ! THE BUS IS LEAVING!

PETEY. YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING?
I'M SURE IT CAN WAIT.
HEY, HARRY -- ABOUT THAT ROOMMATE OFFER...?
YOU'LL TAKE IT, RIGHT, ROOMIE?

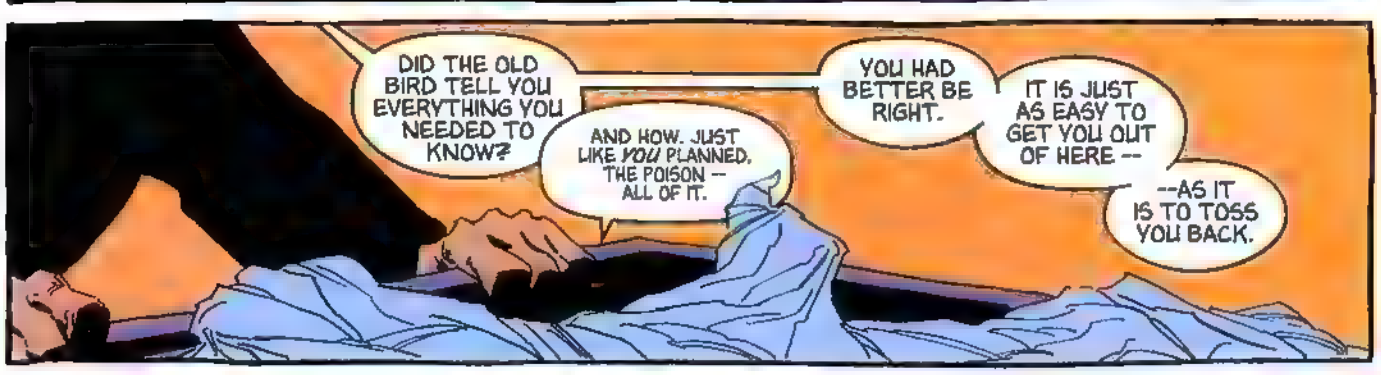

SMART MOVE. YOU'RE ALWAYS MAKING THE SMART MOVE, PETE. GOTTA GIVE YA THAT.
YEAH, I GUESS. I WAS WONDERING WHEN I COULD SEE THE PLACE --
WHAT'S TO SEE? YOU'RE GONNA LOVE IT.

WHAT'DYA SAY, HARRY, WE HAVE A LITTLE HOUSE-WARMING PARTY THIS WEEKEND?
PETEY? YOU IN?
UH... SURE. DONE.
DONE. YOU SAY WHEN, PAL.

I HAD TO GIVE IT TO HARRY. HE CERTAINLY KEPT THINGS MOVING. MAYBE MJ WAS MORE HIS SPEED.


YOU KNOW, ANNA. I NEVER CARED MUCH FOR THAT HARRY OSBORN BOY...

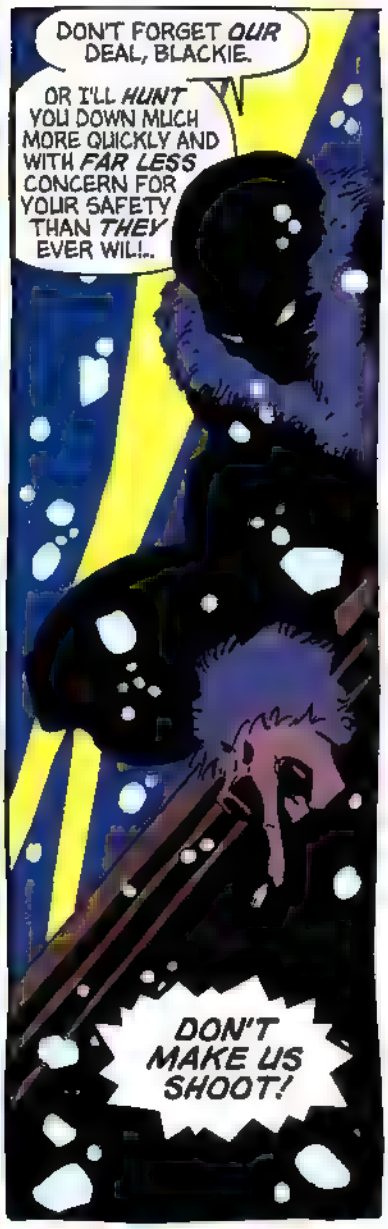
IT WAS MOVING FAST. THE IDEA OF LEAVING AUNT MAY. HARRY, NOW WITH MJ.
AND YET... WITH MY OWN PLACE, I COULD SEE FINALLY FINDING THE TIME TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER, GWEN.
HARRY HAD SAID SOMETHING WILD ABOUT THE WAY YOU LOOKED AT ME...
YOU GOT EVERYTHING OKAY?
YES, SIR.
SAY, WHERE'S THE REGULAR LAUNDRY FELLA?
TOOK SICK. FLU.
LOTTA THAT GOING AROUND. YOU TAKE CARE NOW. 'NIGHT.


DID THE OLD BIRD TELL YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEEDED TO KNOW?
AND HOW. JUST LIKE YOU PLANNED. THE POISON -- ALL OF IT.
YOU HAD BETTER BE RIGHT.
IT IS JUST AS EASY TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE --
--AS IT IS TO TOSS YOU BACK.

GET READY. YOU ARE NOT GOING TO HAVE MUCH TIME.
YOU JUST GET ME TO THE OLD MILL BRIDGE. I'LL DO THE REST.
I... MISSED ALL THE CLUES, DIDN'T I? HOW CAN I MAKE UP FOR THE TIME WE LOST?

THEY'RE COMING.
I'M LOOKING --!

GOT IT!
POLICE! NOBODY MOVE!

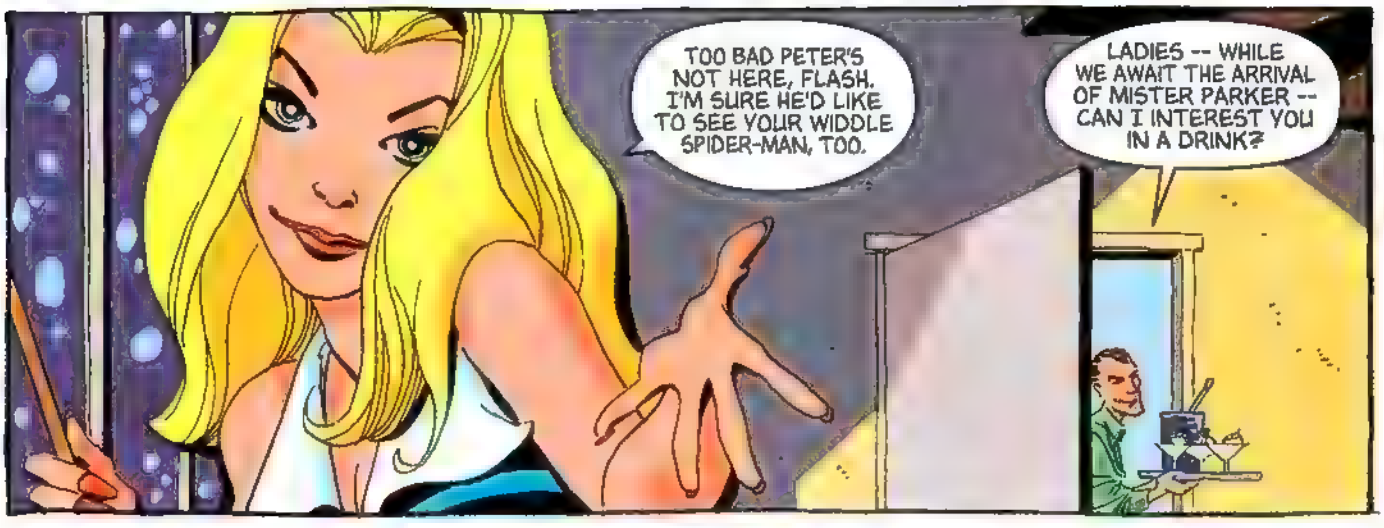

DON'T FORGET OUR DEAL, BLACKIE.
OR I'LL HUNT YOU DOWN MUCH MORE QUICKLY AND WITH FAR LESS CONCERN FOR YOUR SAFETY THAN THEY EVER WILL..
DON'T MAKE US SHOOT!

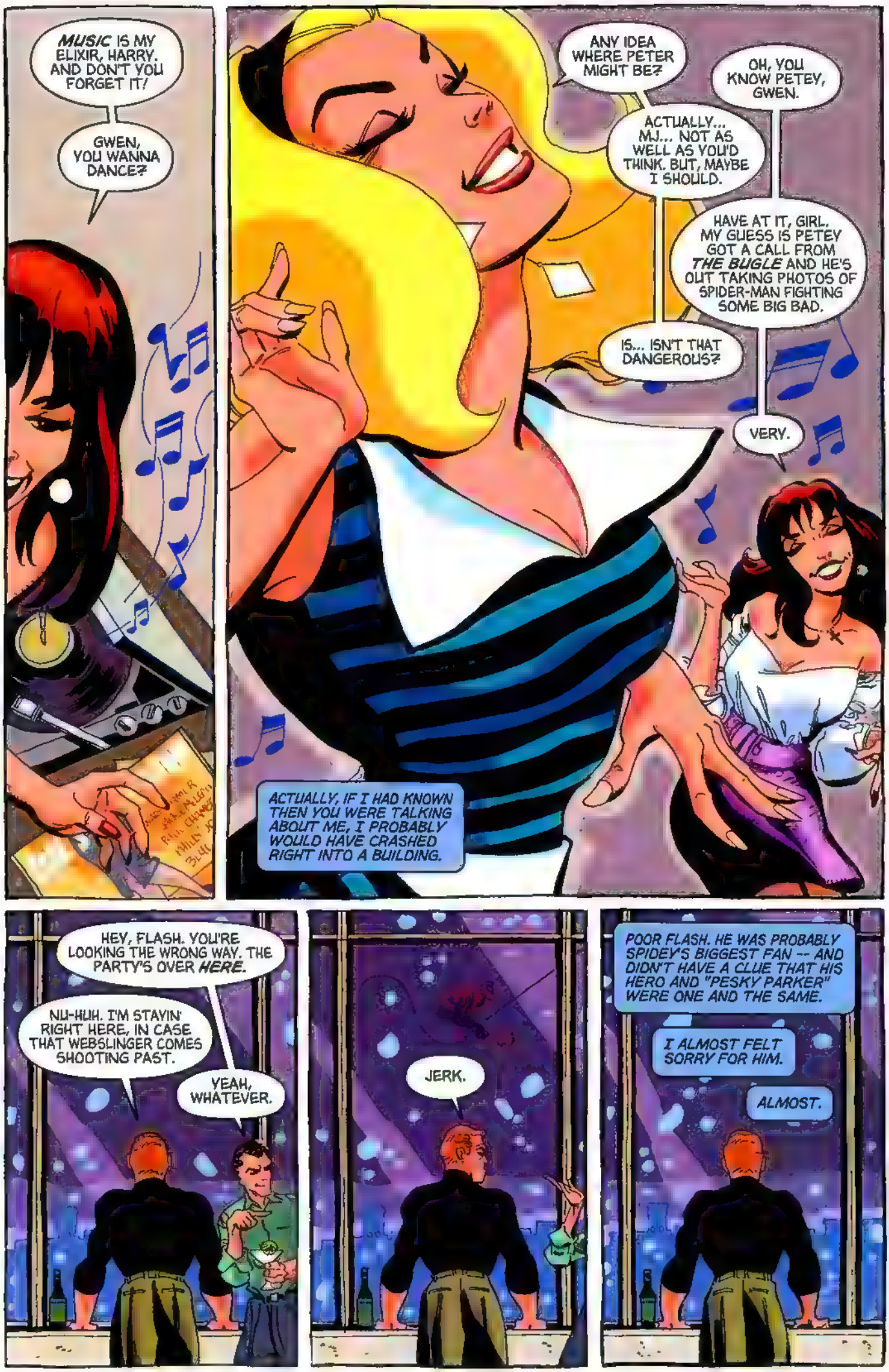
YES, SHOOT. WHILE YOU CAN...

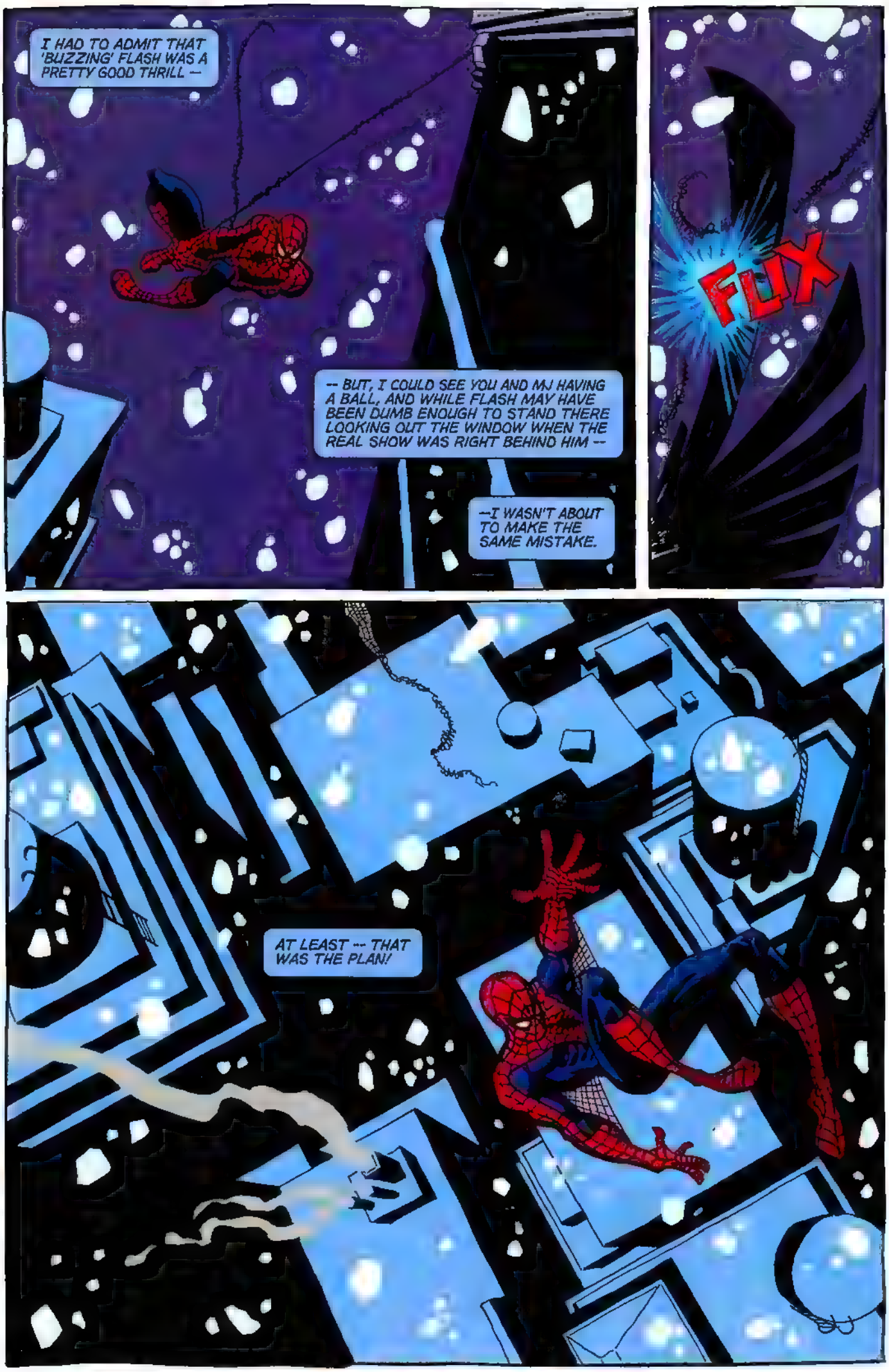
MY SPIDER-*PARTY*-SENSE IS TINGLING. THIS MUST BE THE PLACE!
EITHER THAT, OR I SHOULD REALLY TRY AND SEW SOME THERMALS INTO THIS COSTUME.
THE WEEKEND GOT THERE QUICKER THAN I COULD BELIEVE AND IT WAS TIME TO CHECK OUT HARRY'S AND SOON-TO-BE-MY APARTMENT.

WHOA! THAT'S *HIM!* GO FOR IT, SPIDEY!
WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO, FLASH?

SPIDER-MAN! HE JUST WENT SWINGING BY --!
REALLY. HUH. OH, LOOK, GWEN -- THERE'S *THE INVISIBLE GIRL!*
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT, MJ. SHE'S IN HER *INVISIBLE PLANE* WITH HER *INVISIBLE DOG!*

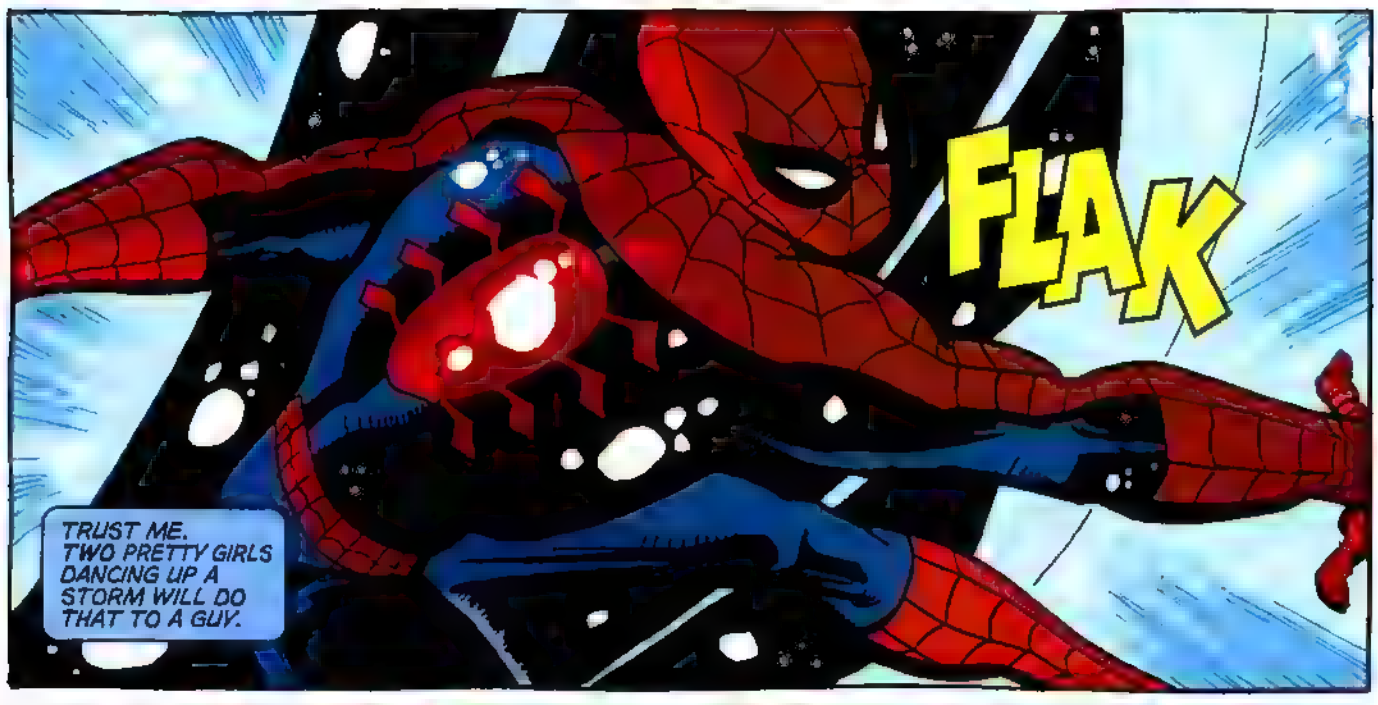

TOO BAD PETER'S NOT HERE, FLASH. I'M SURE HE'D LIKE TO SEE YOUR WIDDLE SPIDER-MAN, TOO.
LADIES -- WHILE WE AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF MISTER PARKER -- CAN I INTEREST YOU IN A DRINK?

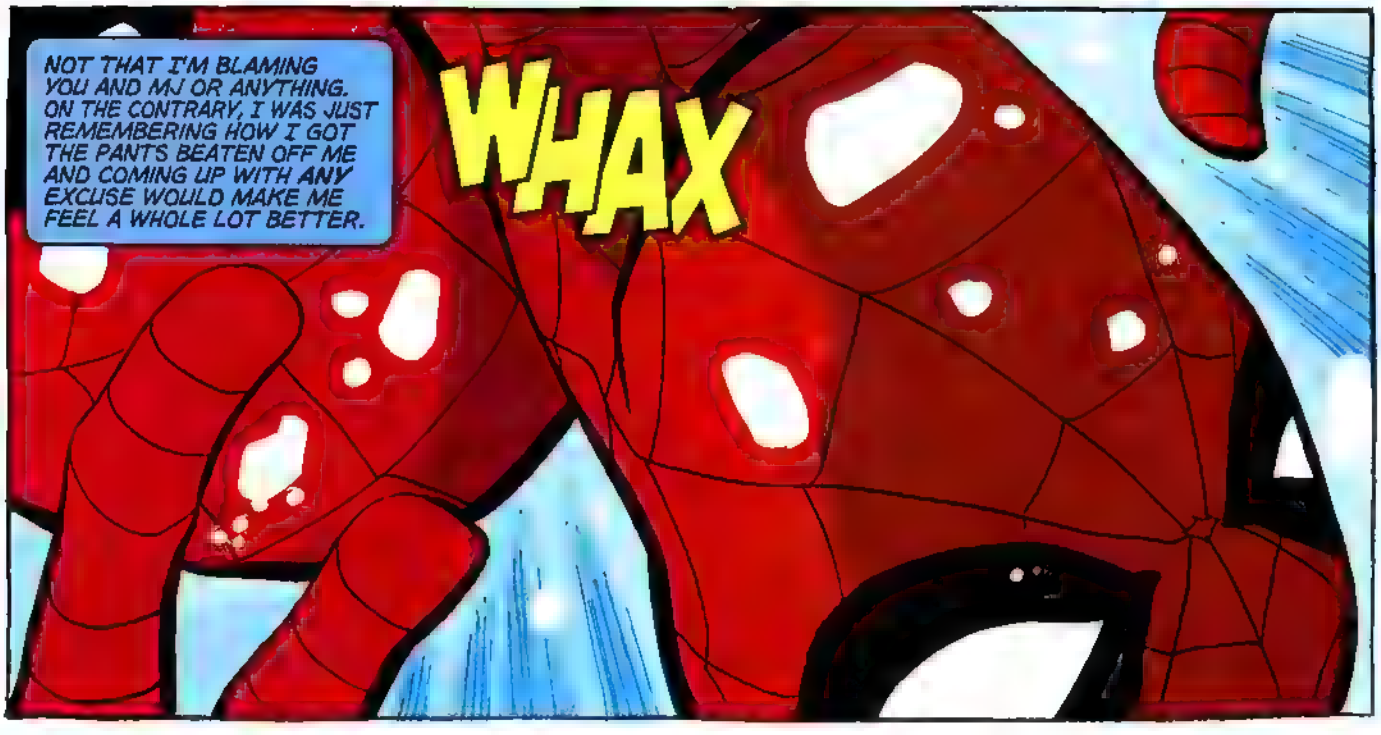

MUSIC IS MY ELIXIR, HARRY. AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT!
GWEN, YOU WANNA DANCE?
ANY IDEA WHERE PETER MIGHT BE?
OH, YOU KNOW PETEY, GWEN.
ACTUALLY... MJ... NOT AS WELL AS YOU'D THINK. BUT, MAYBE I SHOULD.
HAVE AT IT, GIRL. MY GUESS IS PETEY GOT A CALL FROM THE BUGLE AND HE'S OUT TAKING PHOTOS OF SPIDER-MAN FIGHTING SOME BIG BAD.
IS... ISN'T THAT DANGEROUS?
VERY.
ACTUALLY, IF I HAD KNOWN THEN YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT ME, I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE CRASHED RIGHT INTO A BUILDING.
HEY, FLASH. YOU'RE LOOKING THE WRONG WAY. THE PARTY'S OVER HERE.
NU-HUH. I'M STAYIN' RIGHT HERE, IN CASE THAT WEBSLINGER COMES SHOOTING PAST.
YEAH, WHATEVER.
JERK.
POOR FLASH. HE WAS PROBABLY SPIDEY'S BIGGEST FAN -- AND DIDN'T HAVE A CLUE THAT HIS HERO AND "PESKY PARKER" WERE ONE AND THE SAME.
I ALMOST FELT SORRY FOR HIM.
ALMOST.


I HAD TO ADMIT THAT 'BUZZING' FLASH WAS A PRETTY GOOD THRILL --
-- BUT, I COULD SEE YOU AND MJ HAVING A BALL, AND WHILE FLASH MAY HAVE BEEN DUMB ENOUGH TO STAND THERE LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW WHEN THE REAL SHOW WAS RIGHT BEHIND HIM --
--I WASN'T ABOUT TO MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE.
FLIX
AT LEAST -- THAT WAS THE PLAN!

OKAY, THAT'S IT. NOBODY CUTS MY WEBLINE AND GETS AWAY WITH IT!
I PAY FOR THAT STUFF BY THE FOOT!
AND IT DOESN'T EXACTLY COME WHOLE --
--SALE
OOMPH!
SLLAK!

FLAK
IN ALL FAIRNESS, I WAS CAUGHT OFF-GUARD. COMPLETELY. UTTERLY.


FLAK
TRUST ME. TWO PRETTY GIRLS DANCING UP A STORM WILL DO THAT TO A GUY.


NOT THAT I'M BLAMING YOU AND MJ OR ANYTHING. ON THE CONTRARY, I WAS JUST REMEMBERING HOW I GOT THE PANTS BEATEN OFF ME AND COMING UP WITH ANY EXCUSE WOULD MAKE ME FEEL A WHOLE LOT BETTER.
WHAX

WHERE THE HELL IS PARKER ANYWAY?
BIGGEST NIGHT OF HIS LIFE AND HE'S PROBABLY *ASLEEP* IN THE LIBRARY.

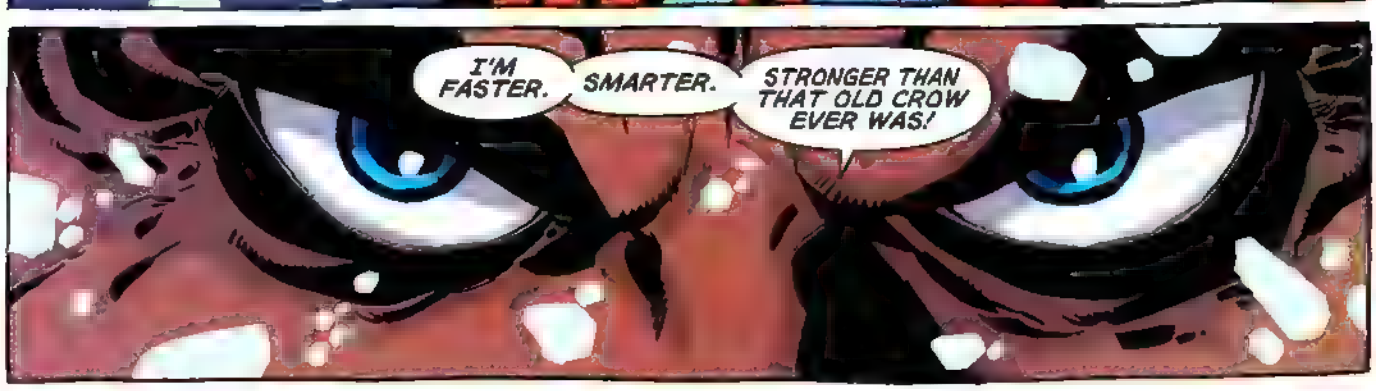
Y'KNOW, FLASH. *WHATEVER* PETE'S UP TO, HE'S GOT TO BE HAVING A MORE EXCITING TIME THAN STANDING AROUND *HERE* LISTENING TO *YOU* WHINE ABOUT IT.
I'M JUST SAYIN'...

IS THAT WHY YOU'RE ALWAYS PUTTING PETER DOWN, FLASH? A TAD *JEALOUS*, HMMM?
OF PARKER?! C'MON, WHAT'S HE GOT THAT OL' FLASH HASN'T GOT IN *BUCKETS*?
PLEASE, DON'T GET US STARTED ON THAT ONE. IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAVE *ALL* NIGHT?

I KEEP TELLING YOU, FLASH -- PETE'S AN OKAY GUY. WHY ELSE DO YOU THINK I'D ASK HIM TO BE MY ROOMMATE?
I DON'T KNOW, HARRY. WHY *DID* YOU ASK *HIM* TO BE YOUR ROOMMATE?
SIGH: LET'S GIVE HIM TILL MIDNIGHT, OKAY?

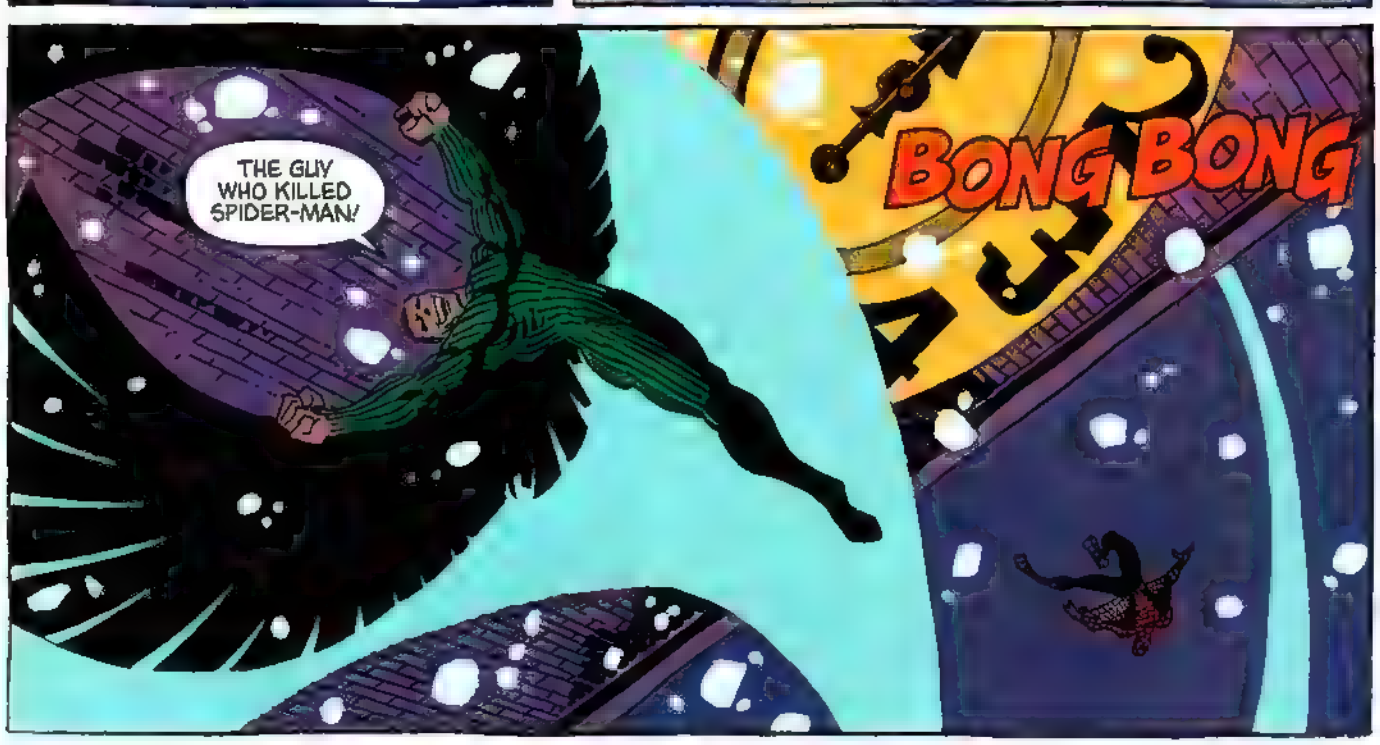
KLANK!
IT WASN'T UNTIL RIGHT ABOUT THEN I REALIZED THAT THE VULTURE WHO HAD SUDDENLY COME FLYING BACK INTO MY LIFE, WASN'T THE SAME SENIOR CITIZEN WHO HAD TRIED TO PLAY SQUASH THE SPIDER BEFORE.
THIS WAS A WHOLE NEW BOX OF TROUBLE IN AN OLD WRAPPER.

HEY, YOU'RE NOT THE VULTURE. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OLD BIRDMAN OF ALCATRAZ?
DEAD. AND YOU'RE ABOUT TO JOIN HIM.
DON'T YOU BAD GUYS HAVE A UNION OR SOMETHING TO KEEP THIS FROM HAPPENING?
TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT?
A COPYCAT CLAUSE?


I'M FASTER.
SMARTER.
STRONGER THAN THAT OLD CROW EVER WAS!

AUTUMN IN NEW YORK.
IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE WARM, AND SUNNY, AND I WANTED TO BE IN CENTRAL PARK, SHARING A HOT DOG AND FEEDING THE DUCKS AND HOLDING HANDS...
SIGH EXTRA-STRENGTH VULTURE?
I STILL LOVED THAT OLD STUFF THAT CAME IN A CAN!

THE NAME IS BLACKIE DRAGO.
THWAK!

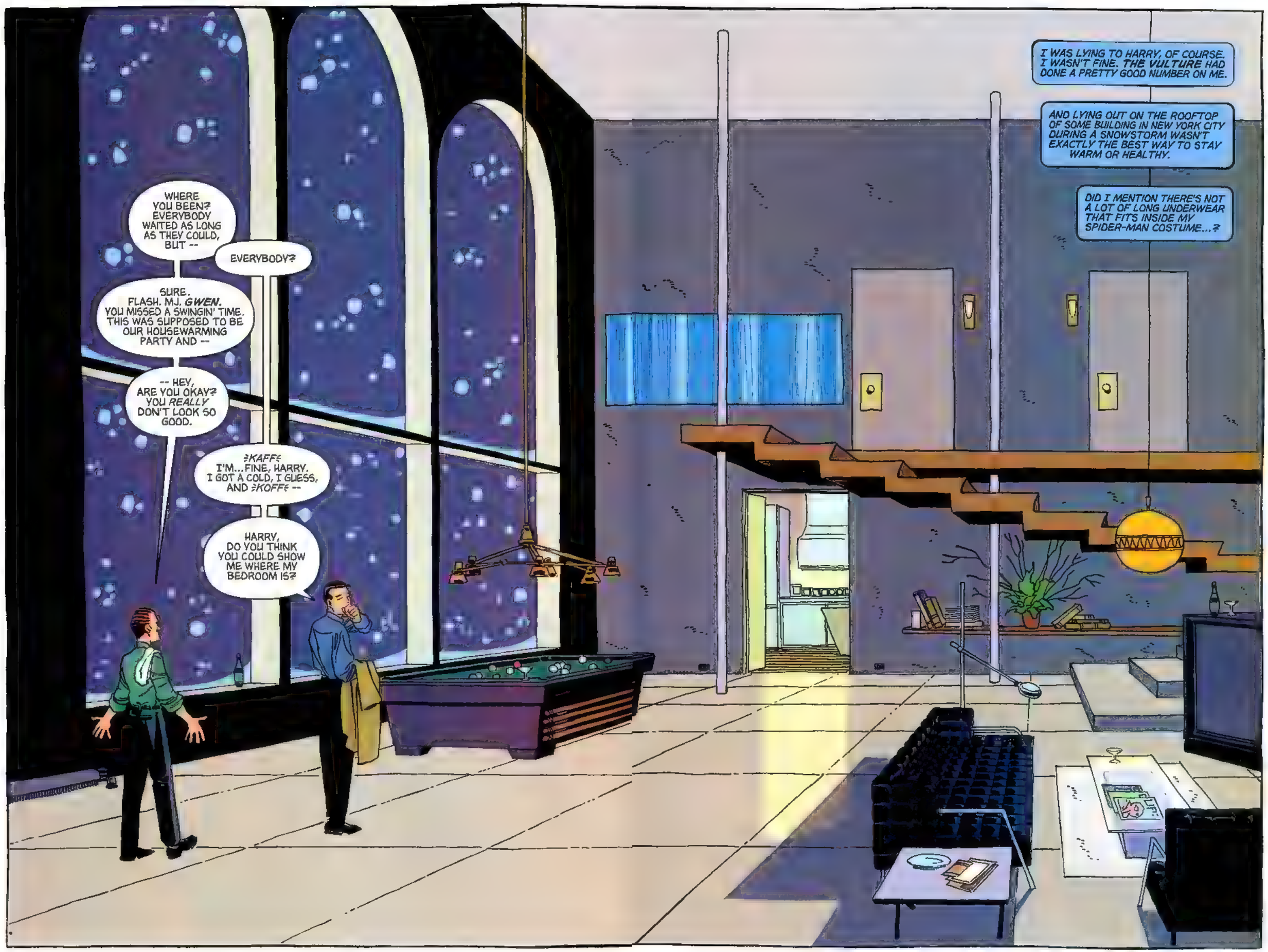

THE GUY WHO KILLED SPIDER-MAN!
BONG BONG

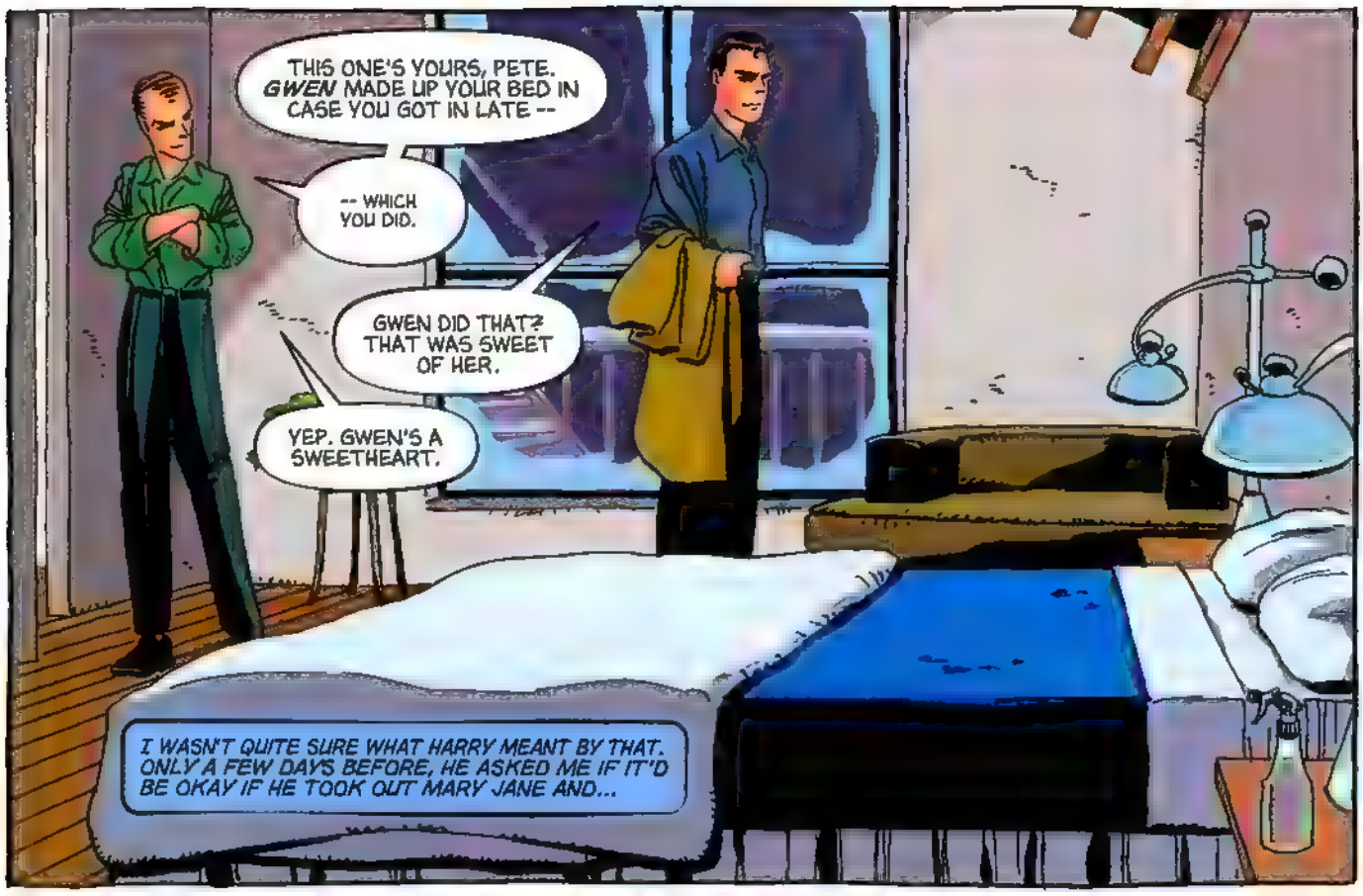
BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG
HAW! MIDNIGHT- HOW DO YOU SPELL "LOSER"?
P.
A.
R.
K.
E.
R.

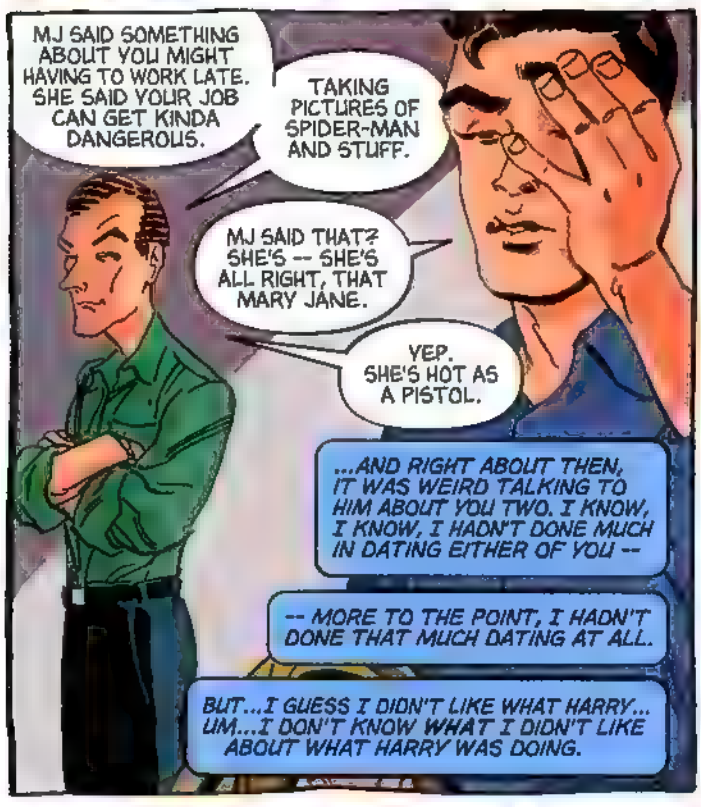
BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG
HA! I WON!
SPIDER-MAN IS DEAD!

AND... AS... STUPID AS IT MAY SOUND, GWEN, LYING THERE...? THE COLD. MY HEAD BLACKING OUT...
I SUPPOSE I DIDN'T KNOW IF I WAS GOING TO LIVE, BUT...
...ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS HOW I LET THE GANG DOWN. WHAT YOU ALL WOULD SAY BECAUSE I HADN'T SHOWN UP.
WHAT YOU, GWEN, WOULD THINK OF ME...
SKLIKE
LOEB SALE 2002

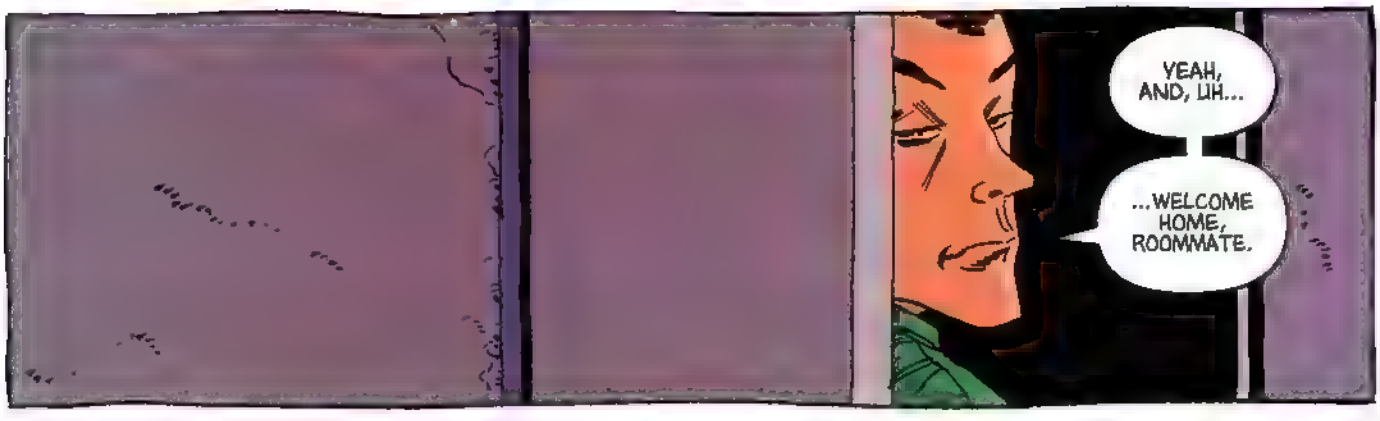
=KLIK= =WHRRR= UM...
I HAD TO GET NEW BATTERIES FOR THIS THING. I'VE BEEN TALKING TO YOU FOR SO LONG, GWEN, THAT I GUESS I DIDN'T REALIZE, WELL, HOW LONG I'D BEEN TALKING.
MAYBE THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS IN A LOVE STORY. YOU CAN'T TELL IT TOO FAST.
AND I WOULDN'T KNOW... NEVER HAVING TOLD ONE.
JEEZ, PETER, YOU LOOK LIKE HELL.
THANKS, HARRY. I LOVE YOU, TOO.
BOOK FIVE:
if i had you

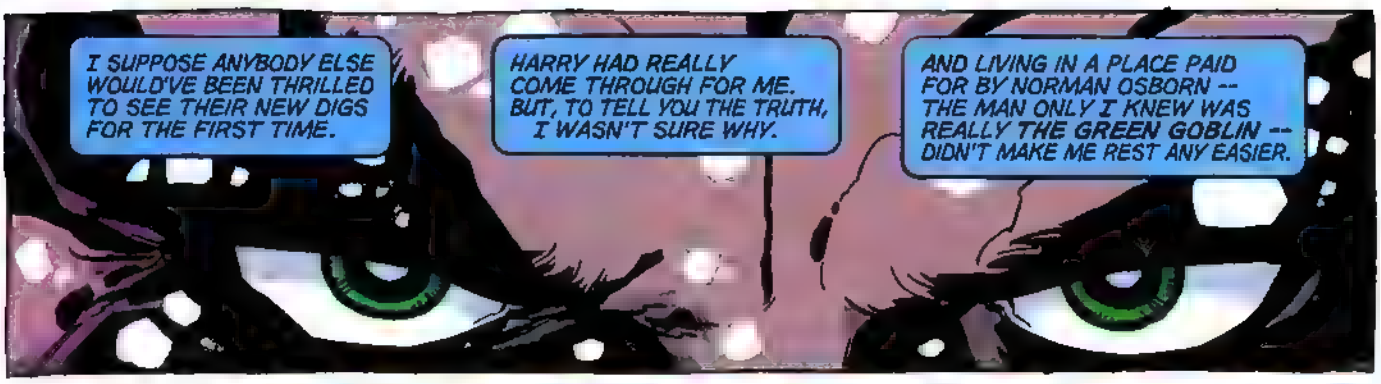

WHERE YOU BEEN? EVERYBODY WAITED AS LONG AS THEY COULD, BUT --
EVERYBODY?
SURE. FLASH. MJ. *GWEN.* YOU MISSED A SWINGIN' TIME. THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE OUR HOUSEWARMING PARTY AND --
-- HEY, ARE YOU OKAY? YOU *REALLY* DON'T LOOK SO GOOD.
KAFF I'M...FINE, HARRY. I GOT A COLD, I GUESS, AND *KOFF* --
HARRY, DO YOU THINK YOU COULD SHOW ME WHERE MY BEDROOM IS?
I WAS LYING TO HARRY, OF COURSE. I WASN'T FINE. THE VULTURE HAD DONE A PRETTY GOOD NUMBER ON ME.
AND LYING OUT ON THE ROOFTOP OF SOME BUILDING IN NEW YORK CITY DURING A SNOWSTORM WASN'T EXACTLY THE BEST WAY TO STAY WARM OR HEALTHY.
DID I MENTION THERE'S NOT A LOT OF LONG UNDERWEAR THAT FITS INSIDE MY SPIDER-MAN COSTUME...?

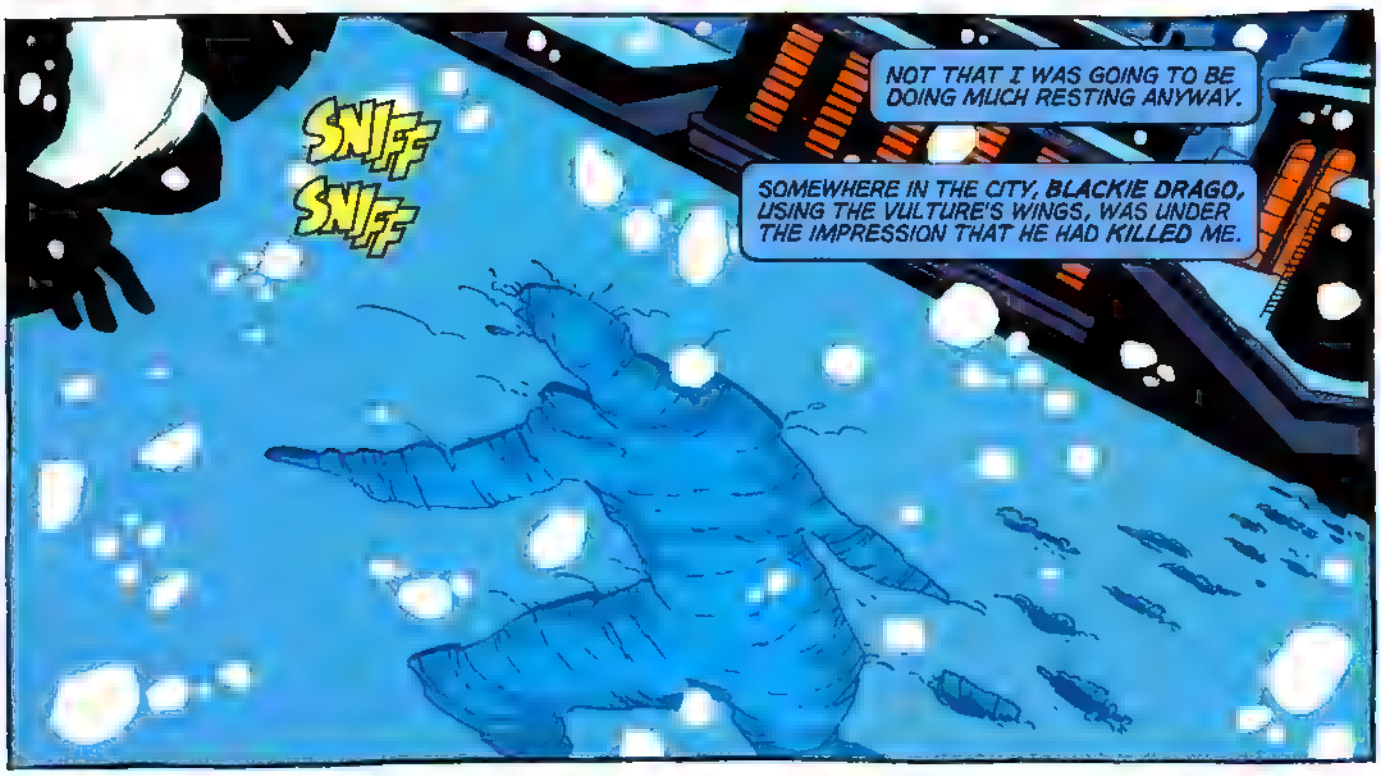

THIS ONE'S YOURS, PETE. GWEN MADE UP YOUR BED IN CASE YOU GOT IN LATE --
-- WHICH YOU DID.
GWEN DID THAT? THAT WAS SWEET OF HER.
YEP. GWEN'S A SWEETHEART.
I WASN'T QUITE SURE WHAT HARRY MEANT BY THAT. ONLY A FEW DAYS BEFORE, HE ASKED ME IF IT'D BE OKAY IF HE TOOK OUT MARY JANE AND...


MJ SAID SOMETHING ABOUT YOU MIGHT HAVING TO WORK LATE. SHE SAID YOUR JOB CAN GET KINDA DANGEROUS.
TAKING PICTURES OF SPIDER-MAN AND STUFF.
MJ SAID THAT? SHE'S -- SHE'S ALL RIGHT, THAT MARY JANE.
YEP. SHE'S HOT AS A PISTOL.
...AND RIGHT ABOUT THEN, IT WAS WEIRD TALKING TO HIM ABOUT YOU TWO. I KNOW, I KNOW, I HADN'T DONE MUCH IN DATING EITHER OF YOU --
-- MORE TO THE POINT, I HADN'T DONE THAT MUCH DATING AT ALL.
BUT...I GUESS I DIDN'T LIKE WHAT HARRY... UM...I DON'T KNOW WHAT I DIDN'T LIKE ABOUT WHAT HARRY WAS DOING.

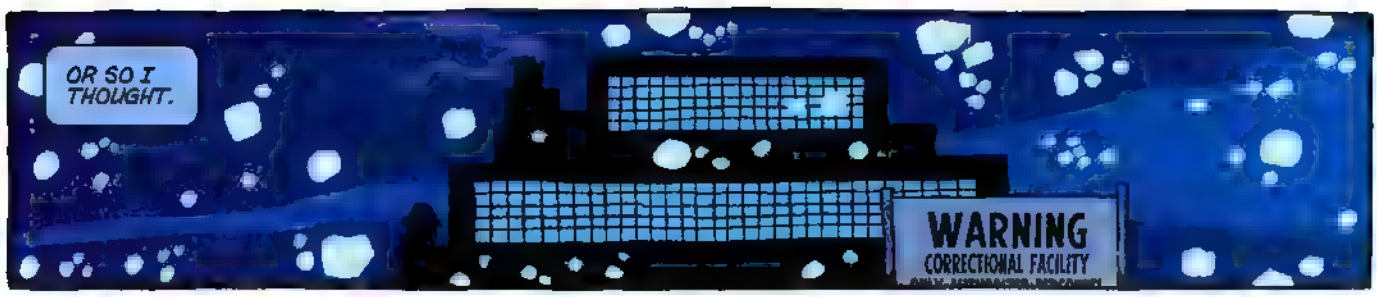
NOT YET, ANYWAY.
HEY, HARRY...?
NICE APARTMENT.

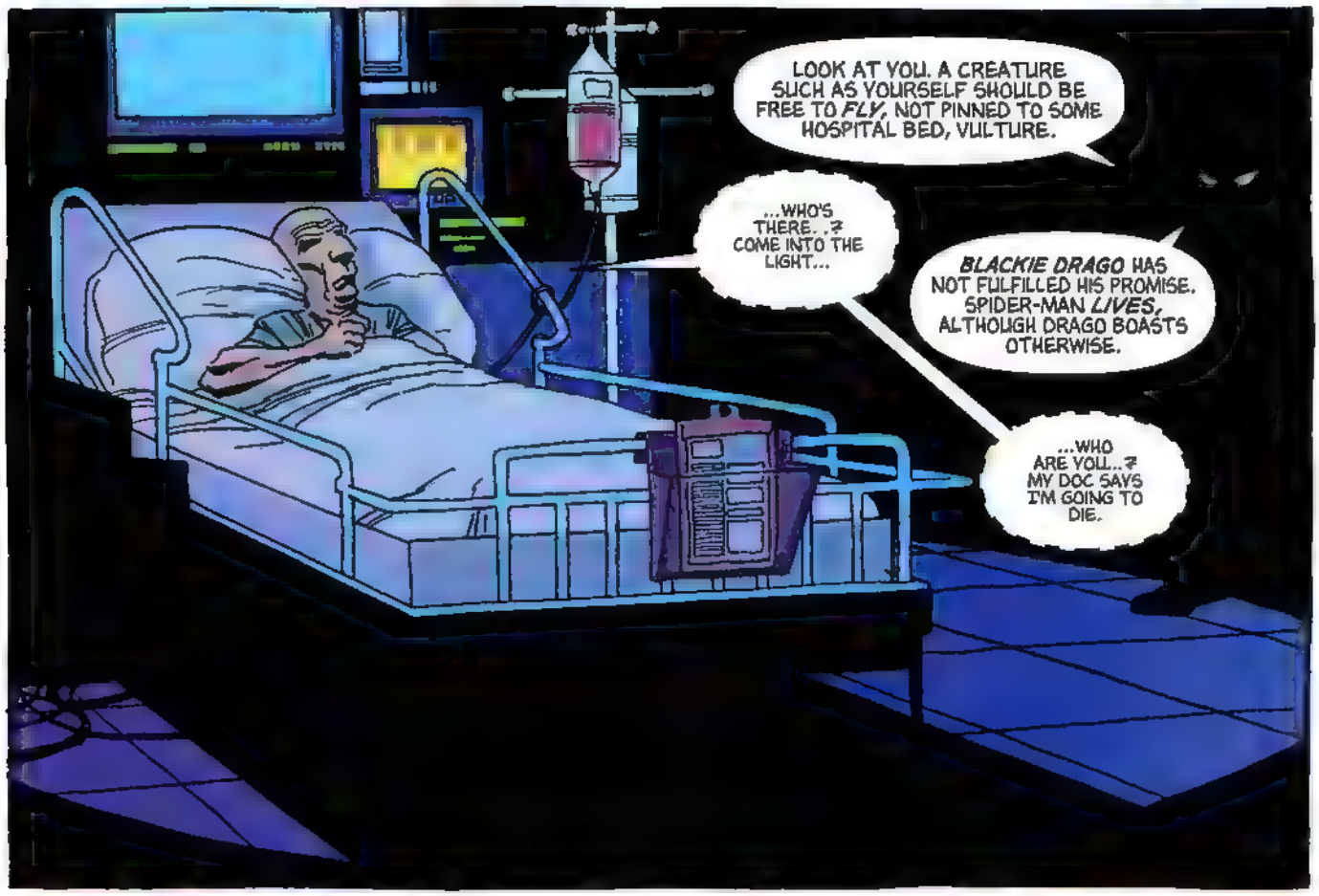

YEAH, AND, UH...
...WELCOME HOME, ROOMMATE.


I SUPPOSE ANYBODY ELSE WOULD'VE BEEN THRILLED TO SEE THEIR NEW DIGS FOR THE FIRST TIME.
HARRY HAD REALLY COME THROUGH FOR ME. BUT, TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I WASN'T SURE WHY.
AND LIVING IN A PLACE PAID FOR BY NORMAN OSBORN -- THE MAN ONLY I KNEW WAS REALLY THE GREEN GOBLIN -- DIDN'T MAKE ME REST ANY EASIER.


SNIFF
SNIFF
NOT THAT I WAS GOING TO BE DOING MUCH RESTING ANYWAY.
SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY, BLACKIE DRAGO, USING THE VULTURE'S WINGS, WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT HE HAD KILLED ME.

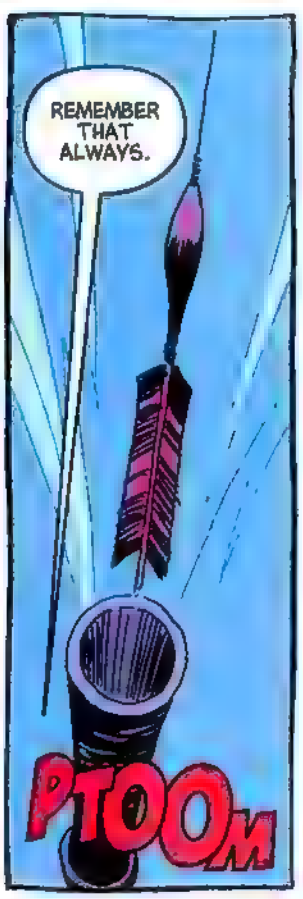
BLACKIE HAD SET OUT TO MAKE A NAME FOR HIMSELF AS THE NEW VULTURE AND AS SIMPLE AS IT SOUNDS --
-- KNOCKING OFF YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN IS AS GOOD A WAY TO LEAVE AN IMPRESSION ON THE SUPER-VILLAIN COMMUNITY AS ANY.
BAD FOR SPIDEY. GOOD FOR BLACKIE.

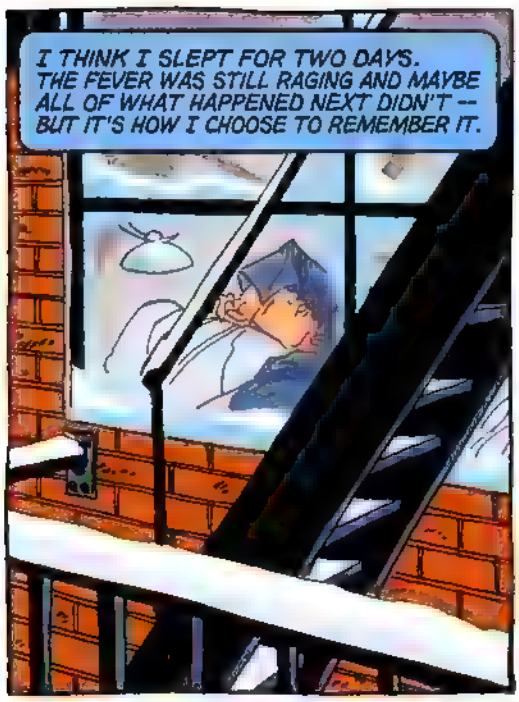

OR SO I THOUGHT.
WARNING
CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

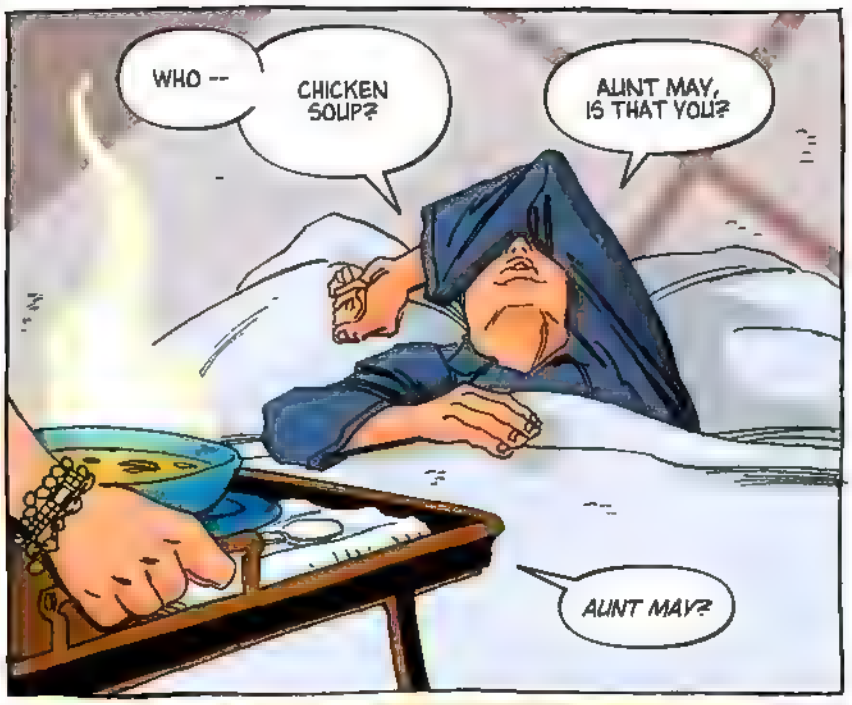

LOOK AT YOU. A CREATURE SUCH AS YOURSELF SHOULD BE FREE TO *FLY*, NOT PINNED TO SOME HOSPITAL BED, VULTURE.
...WHO'S THERE...? COME INTO THE LIGHT...
BLACKIE DRAGO HAS NOT FULFILLED HIS PROMISE. SPIDER-MAN *LIVES*, ALTHOUGH DRAGO BOASTS OTHERWISE.
...WHO ARE YOU...? MY DOC SAYS I'M GOING TO DIE.

AND WHAT IF I WERE TO TELL YOU THAT YOU WILL *LIVE*? WOULD YOU SUCCEED WHERE DRAGO FAILED?
WOULD YOU KILL SPIDER-MAN?
...YES... ANYTHING...

YOU WERE POISONED. *BY DRAGO*. TO OBTAIN YOUR WINGS.
WHEN THERE IS A POISON, THERE IS AN ANTIDOTE. AND I WILL BE YOUR SAVIOR.


REMEMBER THAT ALWAYS.
PTOOM


I THINK I SLEPT FOR TWO DAYS. THE FEVER WAS STILL RAGING AND MAYBE ALL OF WHAT HAPPENED NEXT DIDN'T -- BUT IT'S HOW I CHOOSE TO REMEMBER IT.


WHO --
CHICKEN SOUP?
AUNT MAY, IS THAT YOU?
AUNT MAY?

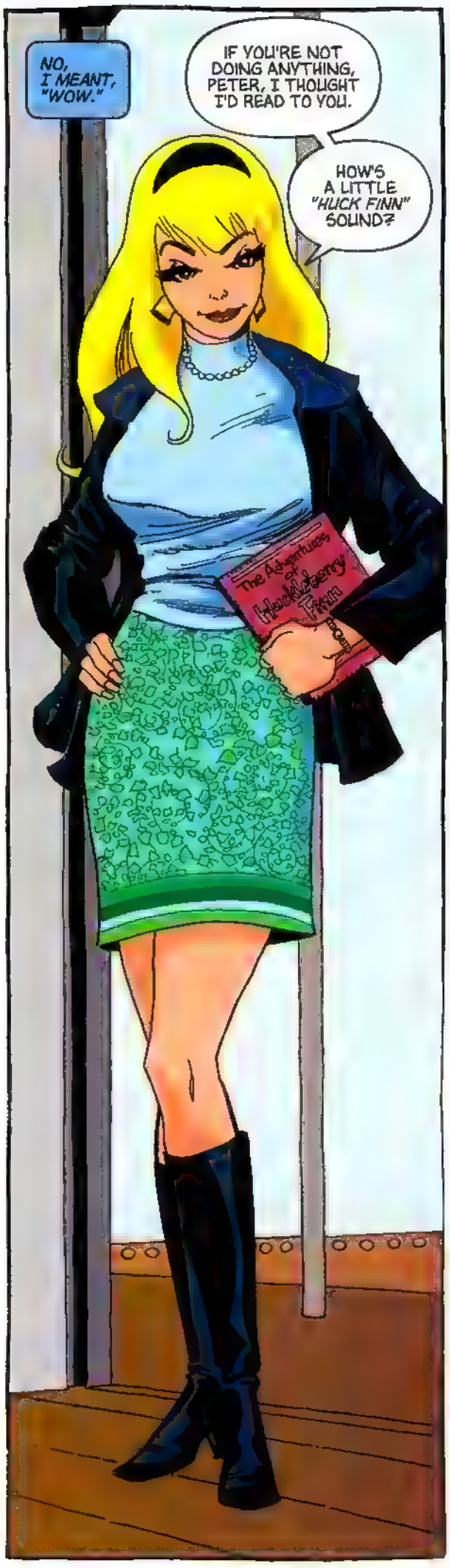
LOOKS LIKE I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME.
THE FEVER'S GONE TO YOUR BRAIN IF YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE YOUR VERY OWN MARY JANE WATSON.
MJ...?

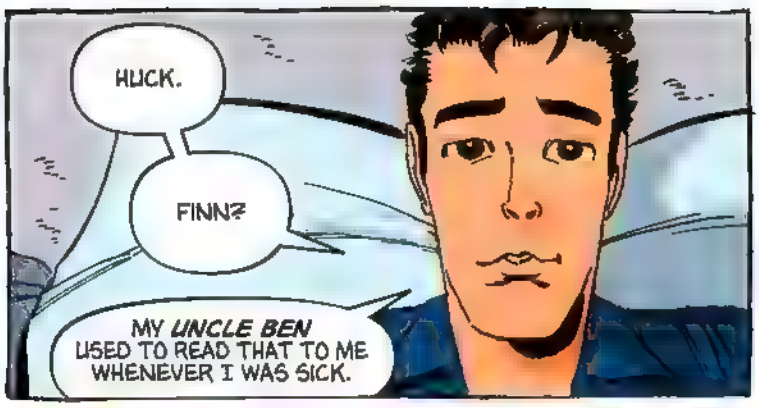
THAT'S IT. NEED MY GUY ALL BIG AND STRONG.
YUM.
"YUM" WE LIKE. MUCH BETTER THAN "BLECH".
ANNA WATSON'S HOMEMADE SOUP IS KILLER.

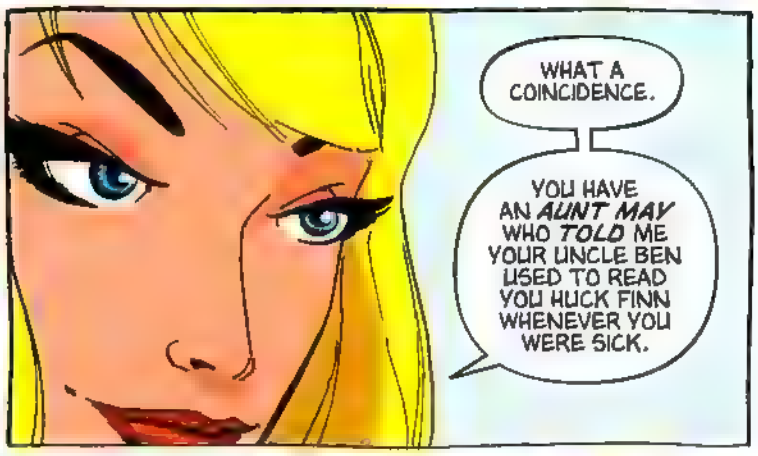
HOPE YOU'RE NOT TOO DISAPPOINTED THAT I DIDN'T MAKE IT MYSELF.
WHAT I LACK IN THE KITCHEN, I MORE THAN MAKE UP FOR IN NURSING SKILLS.
MJ...UH...CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING? YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER OR --

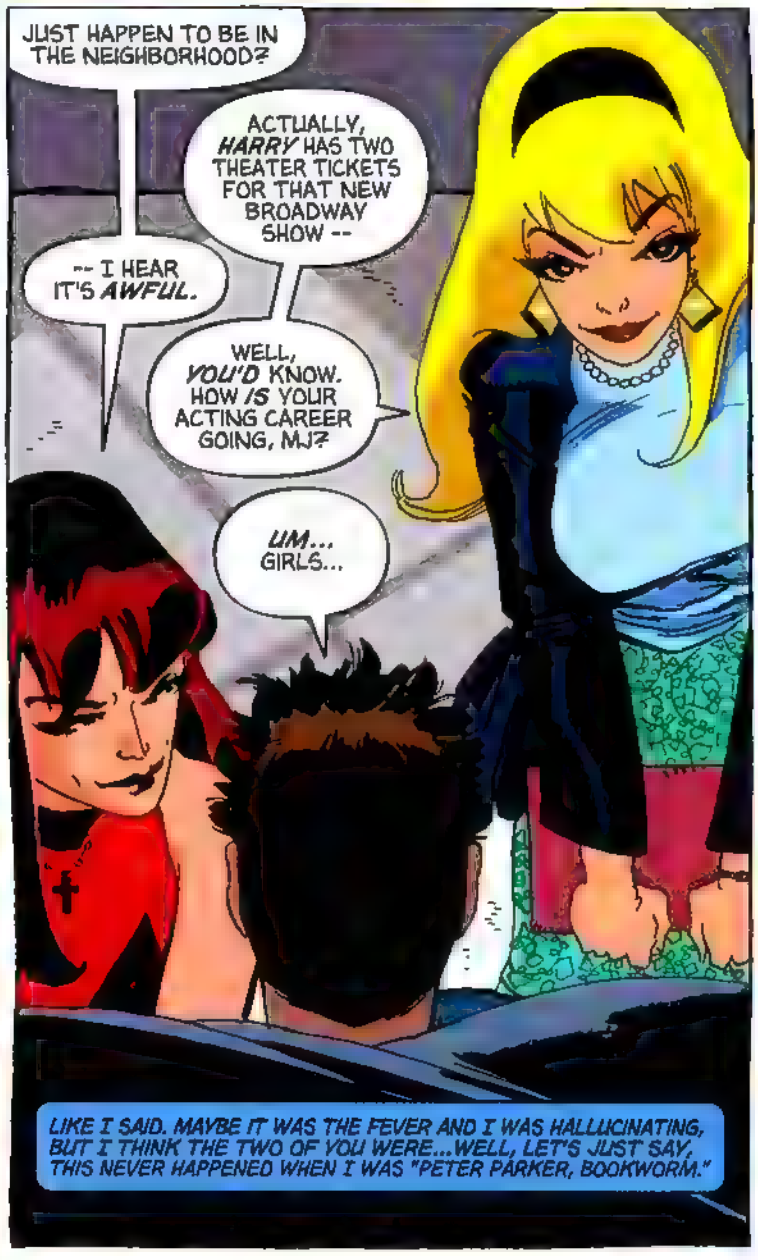
FIRE AWAY. BUT I NEVER KISS AND TELL.
I MEAN, YOU'RE DATING HARRY NOW, AREN'T YOU?
SURE. HARRY'S A NICE GUY AND ALL, BUT --
KNOK KNOK

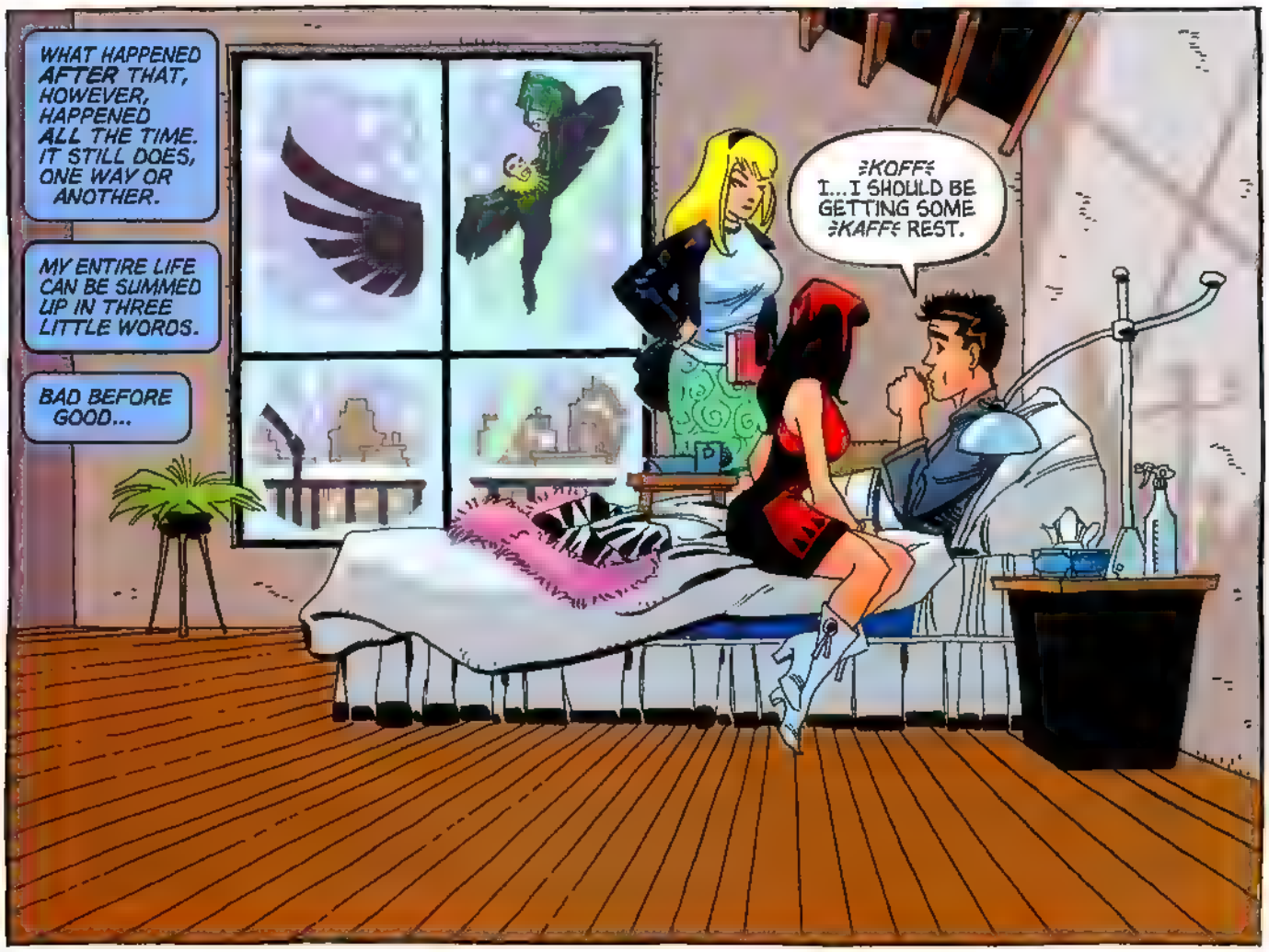
I'M NOT INTERRUPTING ANYTHING, AM I?
WOW.
NOW PETEO. REMEMBER YOU'RE SICK. THE FEVER MAKES YOU SAY THINGS YOU PROBABLY DON'T MEAN.
TISSUES


NO, I MEANT, "WOW."
IF YOU'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING, PETER, I THOUGHT I'D READ TO YOU.
HOW'S A LITTLE "HUCK FINN" SOUND?
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

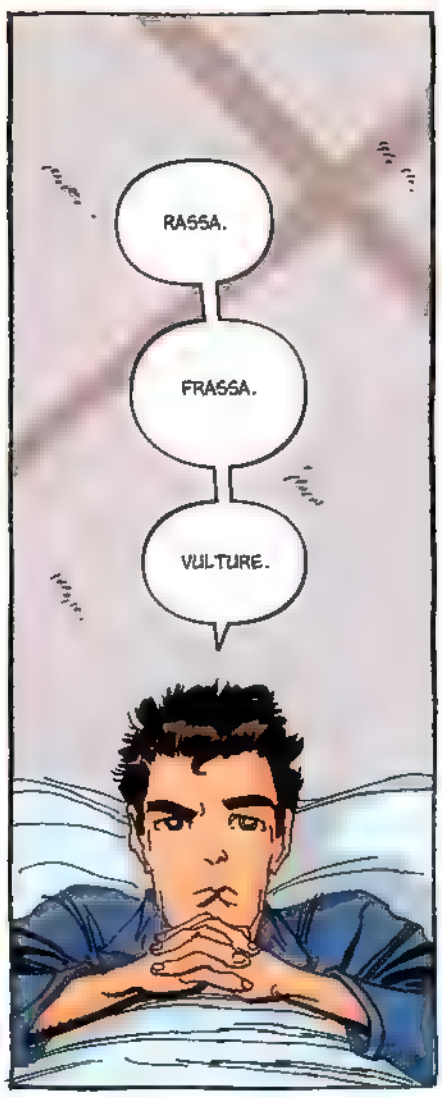

HUCK.
FINN?
MY UNCLE BEN USED TO READ THAT TO ME WHENEVER I WAS SICK.

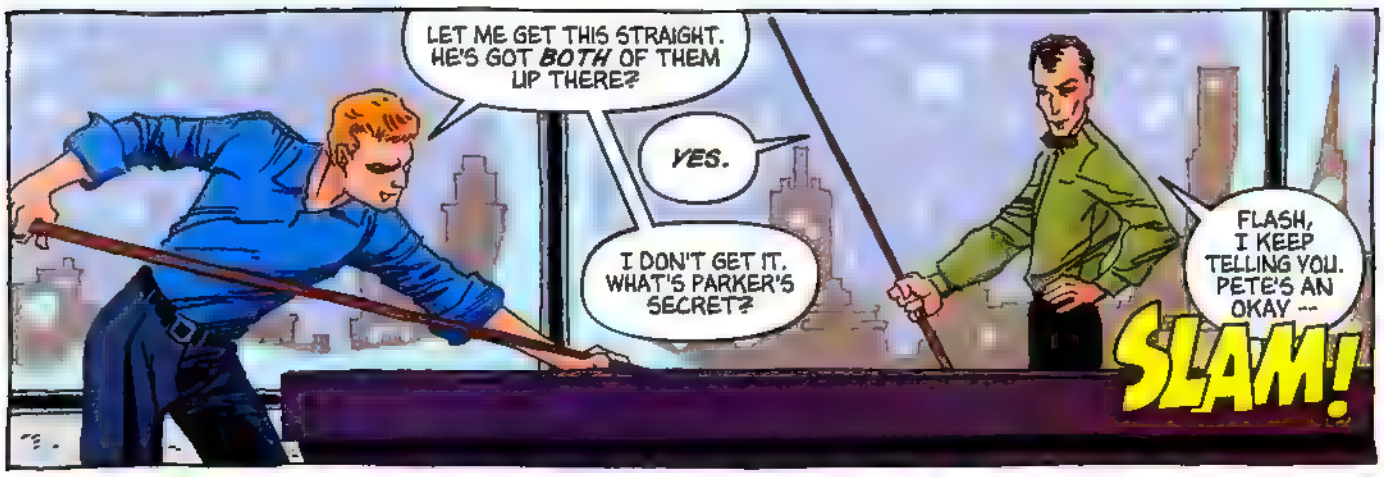

WHAT A COINCIDENCE.
YOU HAVE AN AUNT MAY WHO TOLD ME YOUR UNCLE BEN USED TO READ YOU HUCK FINN WHENEVER YOU WERE SICK.

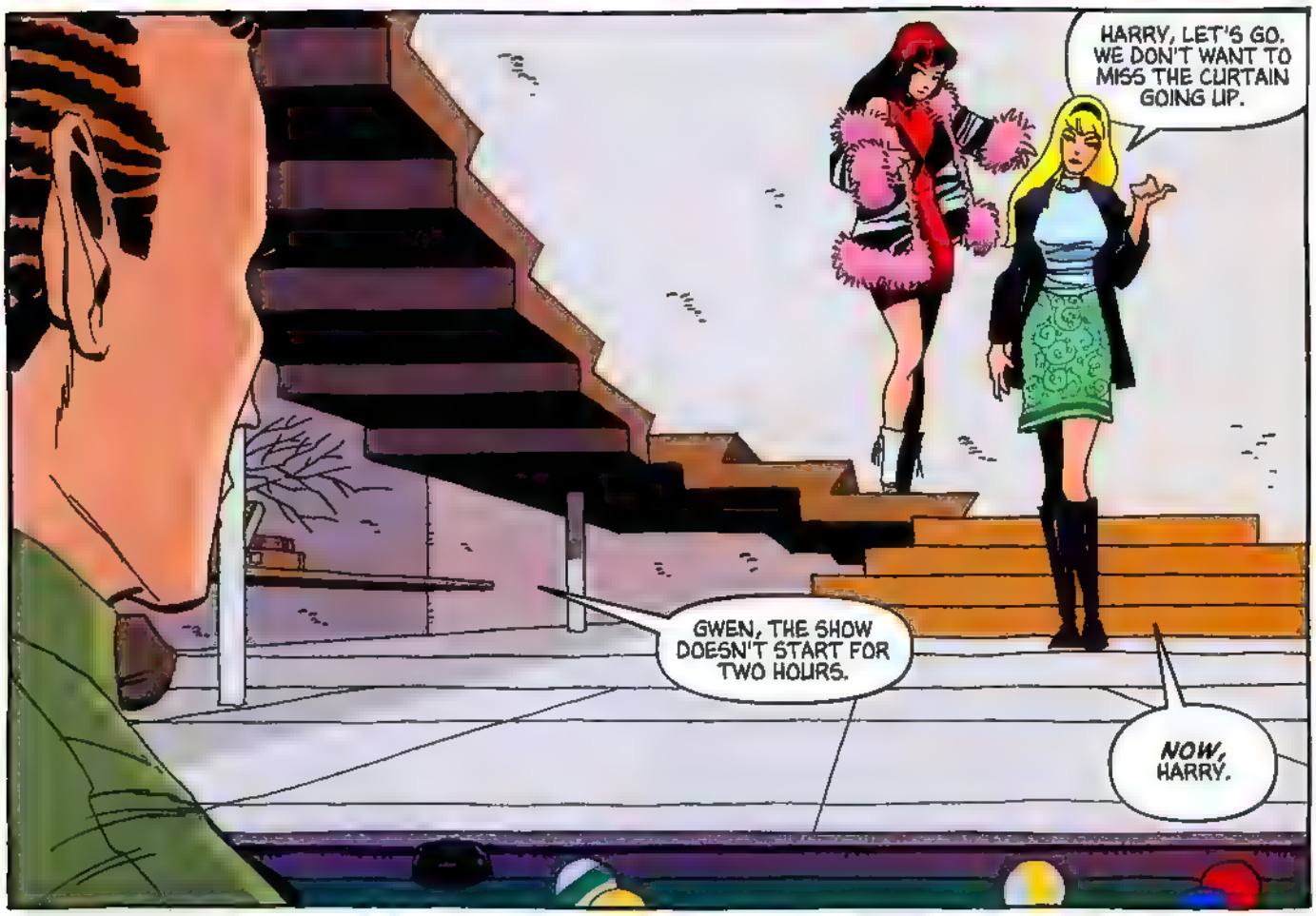

JUST HAPPEN TO BE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD?
ACTUALLY, HARRY HAS TWO THEATER TICKETS FOR THAT NEW BROADWAY SHOW --
-- I HEAR IT'S AWFUL.
WELL, YOU'D KNOW. HOW IS YOUR ACTING CAREER GOING, MJ?
UM... GIRLS...
LIKE I SAID. MAYBE IT WAS THE FEVER AND I WAS HALLUCINATING, BUT I THINK THE TWO OF YOU WERE...WELL, LET'S JUST SAY, THIS NEVER HAPPENED WHEN I WAS "PETER PARKER, BOOKWORM."


WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT, HOWEVER, HAPPENED ALL THE TIME. IT STILL DOES, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.
MY ENTIRE LIFE CAN BE SUMMED UP IN THREE LITTLE WORDS.
BAD BEFORE GOOD...
KOFF! I...I SHOULD BE GETTING SOME KAFF! REST.

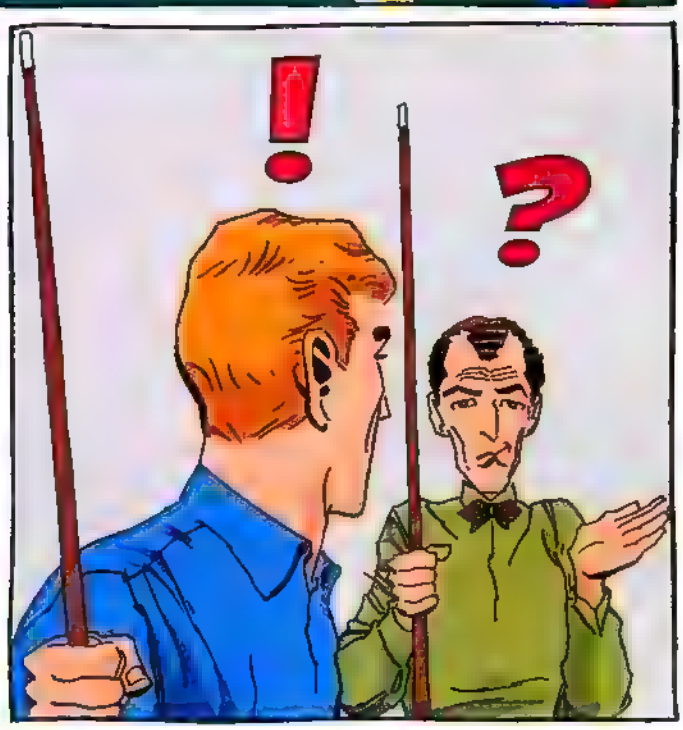
SURE, PETER.
LATER, PETEO.


RASSA.
FRASSA.
VULTURE.


LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT. HE'S GOT *BOTH* OF THEM UP THERE?
YES.
I DON'T GET IT. WHAT'S PARKER'S SECRET?
FLASH, I KEEP TELLING YOU. PETE'S AN OKAY --
SLAM!


HARRY, LET'S GO. WE DON'T WANT TO MISS THE CURTAIN GOING UP.
GWEN, THE SHOW DOESN'T START FOR TWO HOURS.
NOW, HARRY.

HEY, DOLLFACE, IF YOU'RE ALL THROUGH PLAYING FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, HOW'S ABOUT YOU AND ME --
EARTH TO FLASH --
-- *DROP DEAD.*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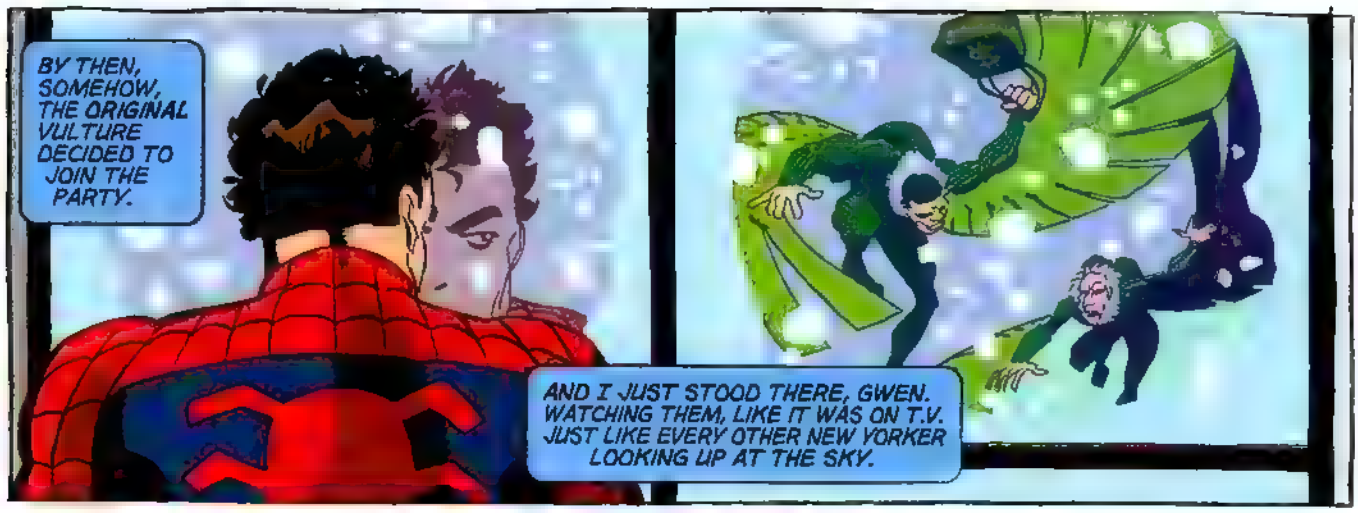
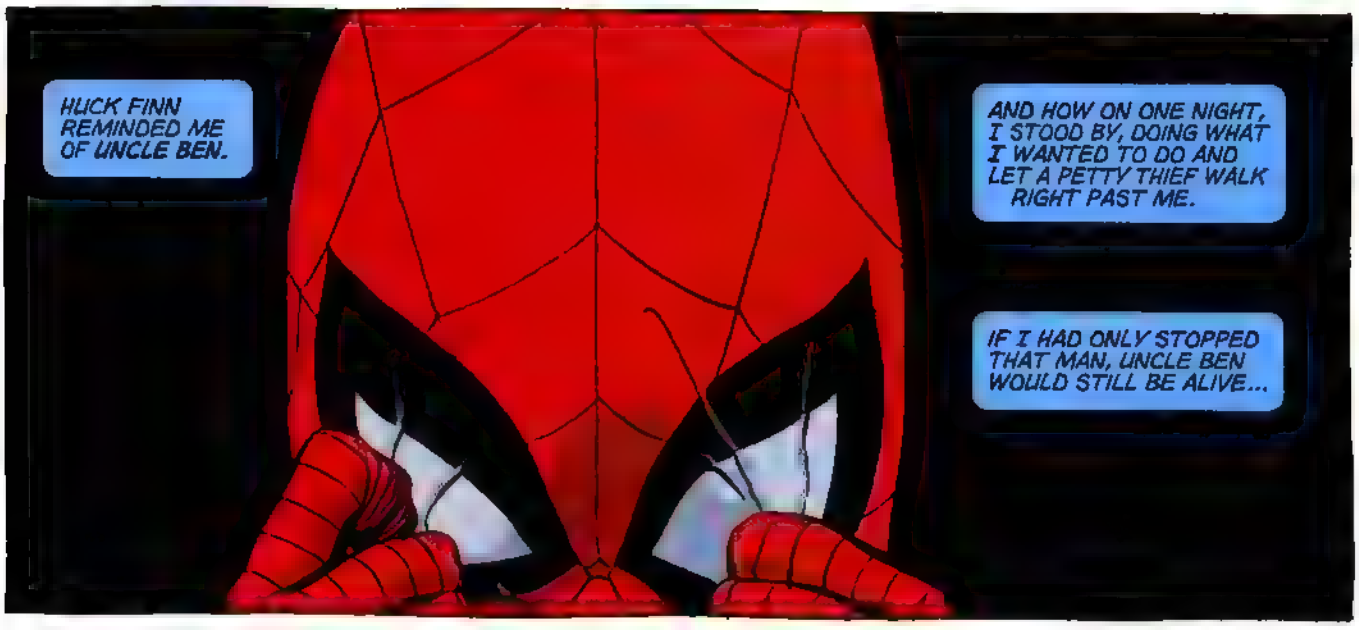

BY THEN, SOMEHOW, THE ORIGINAL VULTURE DECIDED TO JOIN THE PARTY.
AND I JUST STOOD THERE, GWEN. WATCHING THEM, LIKE IT WAS ON T.V. JUST LIKE EVERY OTHER NEW YORKER LOOKING UP AT THE SKY.

SERIOUSLY, WHAT DID I CARE IF THOSE TWO WANTED TO KILL EACH OTHER? IT WOULD PROBABLY DO THE WORLD A LOT OF GOOD IF ONE OR BOTH OF THEM WENT DOWN.
I MEAN, I WAS SICK. I SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN BED WITH A PRETTY GIRL READING ME HUCK FINN.
HUCK FINN...


HUCK FINN REMINDED ME OF UNCLE BEN.
AND HOW ON ONE NIGHT, I STOOD BY, DOING WHAT I WANTED TO DO AND LET A PETTY THIEF WALK RIGHT PAST ME.
IF I HAD ONLY STOPPED THAT MAN, UNCLE BEN WOULD STILL BE ALIVE...

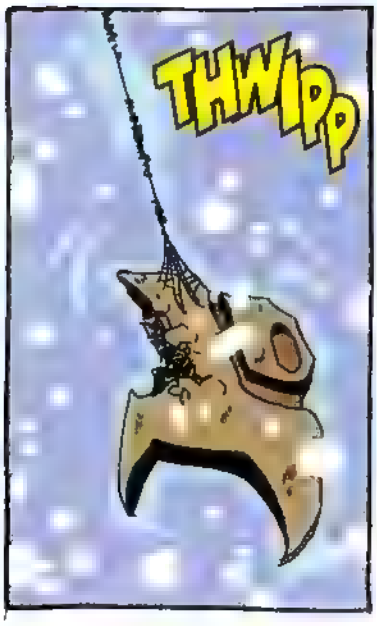
...IF ONLY...

THERE ARE SOME DAYS I HATE THAT WITH GREAT POWER COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.
SPIDER-MAN!
GAHH!
LET ME GUESS.
YOU WERE BOTH OVER AT THE PET STORE AND THEY ONLY HAD ONE BAG OF BIRD SEED LEFT AND ONE THING LED TO ANOTHER, SO NOW SPIDEY WINDS UP WITH A CLEAN-UP ON AISLE FOUR.

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, ARACHNID!
SURE, YOU SAY THAT *NOW*. BUT AS SOON AS YOU GET A CUT OR BRUISE, YOU'LL COME RUNNING TO ME FOR A BAND-AID OR A HUG --
FWAK

KRASH!
OH, BOY.

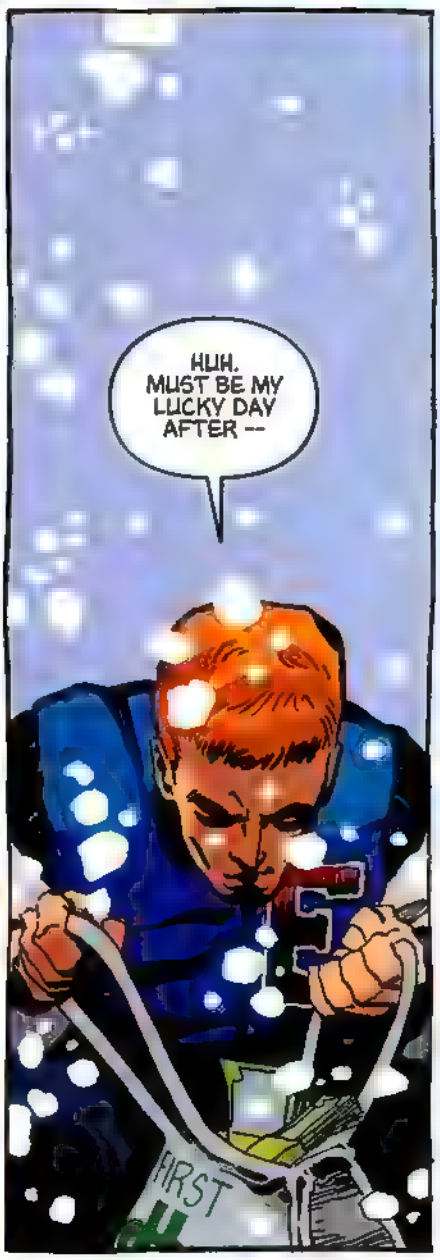
I GOT IT.
I GOT IT.
I GOT IT.


THWIPP

SNAP!
I DON'T GOT IT...

IF PEOPLE KNEW HOW HARD THIS JOB WAS I WONDER IF ANYONE WOULD EVER DO IT...
WHAT HAPPENED...? I MEAN, IN HIGH SCHOOL I HAD IT ALL, THE CHICKS. EVERYTHING.
NOW, PARKER'S SCORING AND OL' FLASH IS SITTING ON THE BENCH. IT DOESN'T MAKE --

-- SENSE!
FIRST
NATIONAL
SPLOOSH

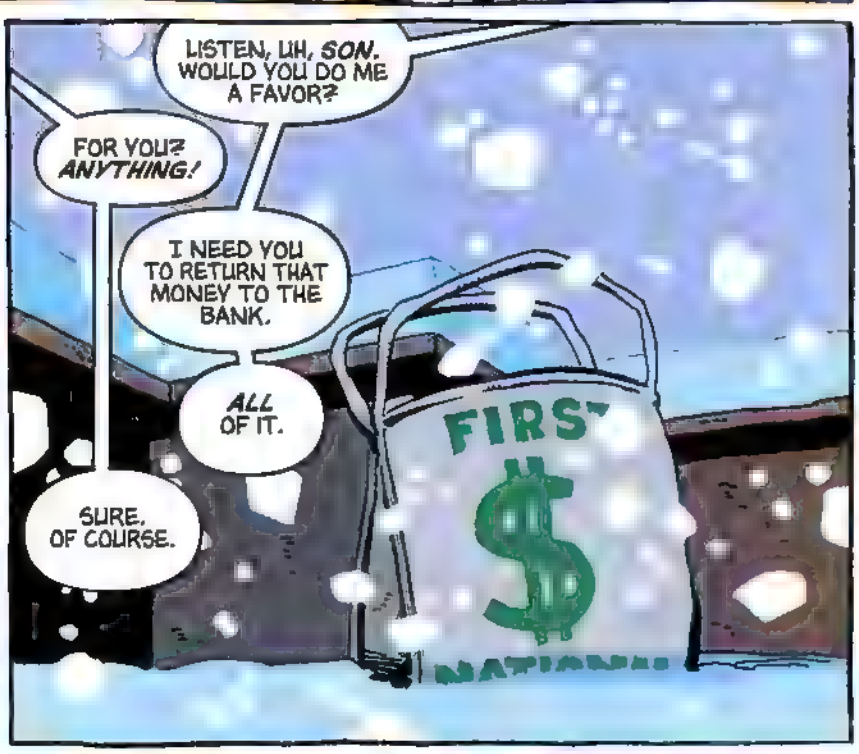

HUH. MUST BE MY LUCKY DAY AFTER --
FIRST

-- ALL.

SOMETIMES I DO REALIZE THAT GOD HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR AND I ACTUALLY GET THE JOKE.

GWEN, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, I SORT OF WISH I HAD TOLD FLASH THAT I WAS PETER PARKER BACK THEN.
HE WAS PROBABLY SPIDEY'S BIGGEST FAN AND I NEVER ACKNOWLEDGED IT IN ANY WAY.
MAYBE IT WAS PAYBACK FOR ALL THE YEARS HE PLAYED THE BULLY TO MY HAPLESS VICTIM.
Y-YOU SAVED MY LIFE.
YEAH. IT'S WHAT I DO FOR A LIVING. DESPITE WHAT THE DAILY BUGLE SAYS.

AH, I WOULDN'T WIPE MYSELF WITH THAT RAG. ALL THEY PRINT ARE LIES ABOUT YOU. EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT.
WELL...
NO KIDDING. YOU'RE A HERO. LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE WITH YOUR LIFE!

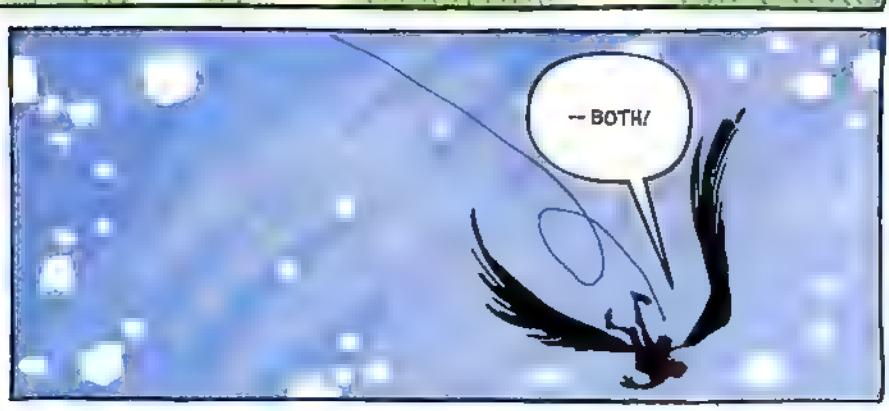

LISTEN, UH, SON. WOULD YOU DO ME A FAVOR?
FOR YOU? ANYTHING!
I NEED YOU TO RETURN THAT MONEY TO THE BANK.
ALL OF IT.
SURE. OF COURSE.

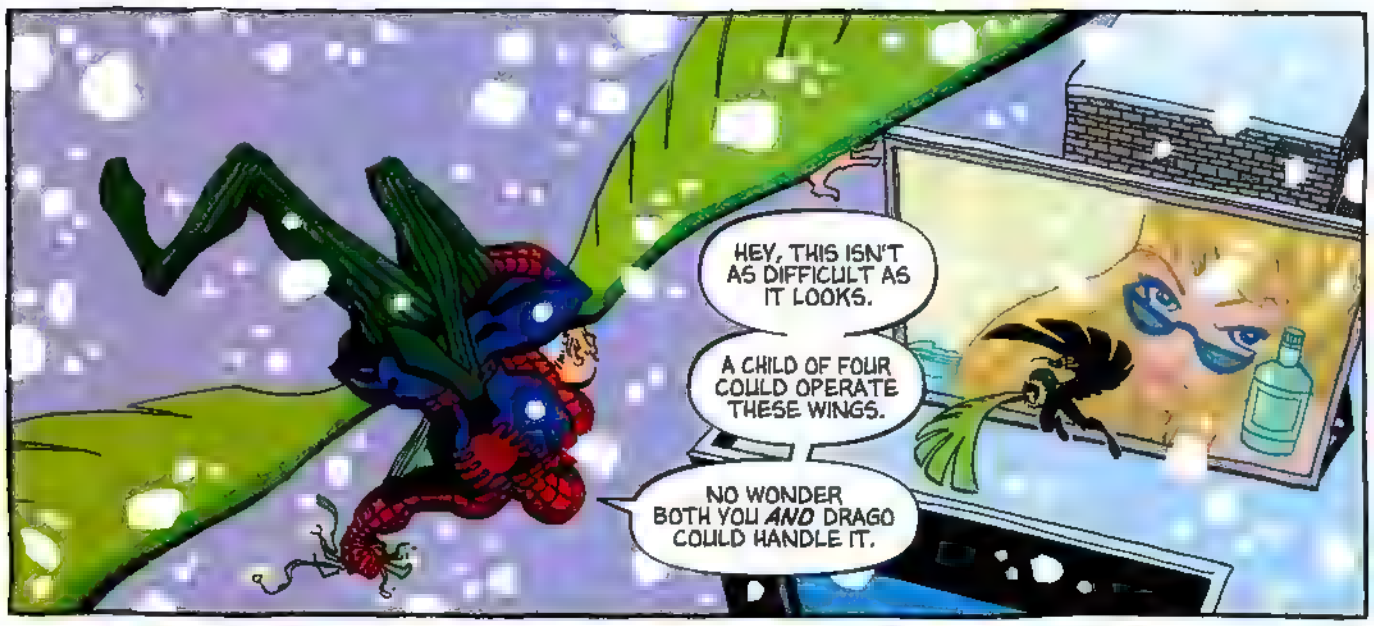
SO, FLASH... WHAT'VE YOU DONE WITH YOUR LIFE?
BUT, SOMEHOW, WHEN I LEFT THAT ROOF, RAZZING FLASH WASN'T AS MUCH FUN ANYMORE...

I THINK I REALIZED SOMETHING ELSE THAT DAY WATCHING THOSE TWO VULTURES.
YOU CAN'T BEAT ME -- I'M YOUNGER THAN YOU -- FASTER -- SUFF!
BDOK
THE ARROGANCE OF YOUTH. EXPERIENCE IS WHAT MATTERS.
I CREATED THESE WINGS FOR ME. YOU MAY HAVE USURPED THEM, BUT --

THEY WERE FIGHTING OVER ESSENTIALLY THE SAME THING AND ONLY ONE OF THEM COULD HAVE IT.
I KNOW, I KNOW. NORMALLY, I WOULDN'T DROP IN WITHOUT CALLING, BUT I WAS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND --
GET OFF ME, DAMN YOU!
OH, DON'T MAKE SUCH A FUSS, VULCHY. I'LL ONLY BE A MINUTE.

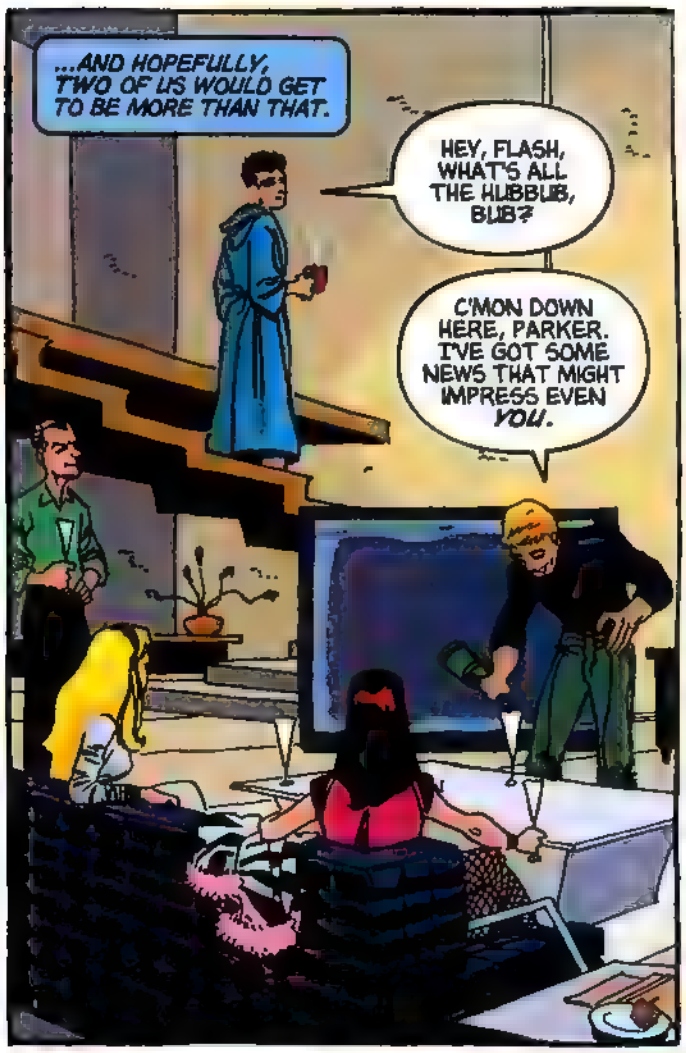
NOW, LET'S SEE, INSERT WIRE "A" INTO PLUG "C" --
YOU'D THINK THESE THINGS WOULD COME WITH INSTRUCTIONS!
YOU IDIOT, YOU'LL KILL US --
SKRIP


-- BOTH!


HEY, THIS ISN'T AS DIFFICULT AS IT LOOKS.
A CHILD OF FOUR COULD OPERATE THESE WINGS.
NO WONDER BOTH YOU AND DRAGO COULD HANDLE IT.

AND WHILE I COULDN'T EXACTLY SEE YOU AND MJ PUTTING ON A PAIR OF WINGS AND DUKING IT OUT OVER BROADWAY --
-- AS AMUSING AS THAT MIGHT BE --
THRASH!
RAMMING SPEED!

AND THAT, GENTLEMEN, IS HOW YOU KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE!
-- I HAD TO FIND A WAY THAT WOULD ALLOW ALL OF US TO REMAIN FRIENDS...


...AND HOPEFULLY, TWO OF US WOULD GET TO BE MORE THAN THAT.
HEY, FLASH, WHAT'S ALL THE HUBBUB, BUB?
C'MON DOWN HERE, PARKER. I'VE GOT SOME NEWS THAT MIGHT IMPRESS EVEN YOU.

I HAD AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE TODAY.
SPIDER-MAN SAVED MY LIFE.
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
AN "AMAZING FANTASY" IS MORE LIKE IT.
ONE SEC, GWEN. I WANT TO HEAR THIS.

THANKS, PAR -- PETE. MAYBE HARRY'S BEEN RIGHT ABOUT YOU ALL ALONG.
BUT I DOUBT IT.
ANYWAY, HERE I WAS WITH SPIDER-MAN.
I BET HE'S NOT MUCH OLDER THAN ANYBODY IN THIS ROOM AND HE'S OUT THERE, EVERY DAY, PUTTING HIS LIFE ON THE LINE, HELPING PEOPLE JUST LIKE ME.
AND I LOOKED AT MY OWN LIFE AND REALIZED, I HAD TO PUT AWAY MY FOOTBALL AND DO MY PART.

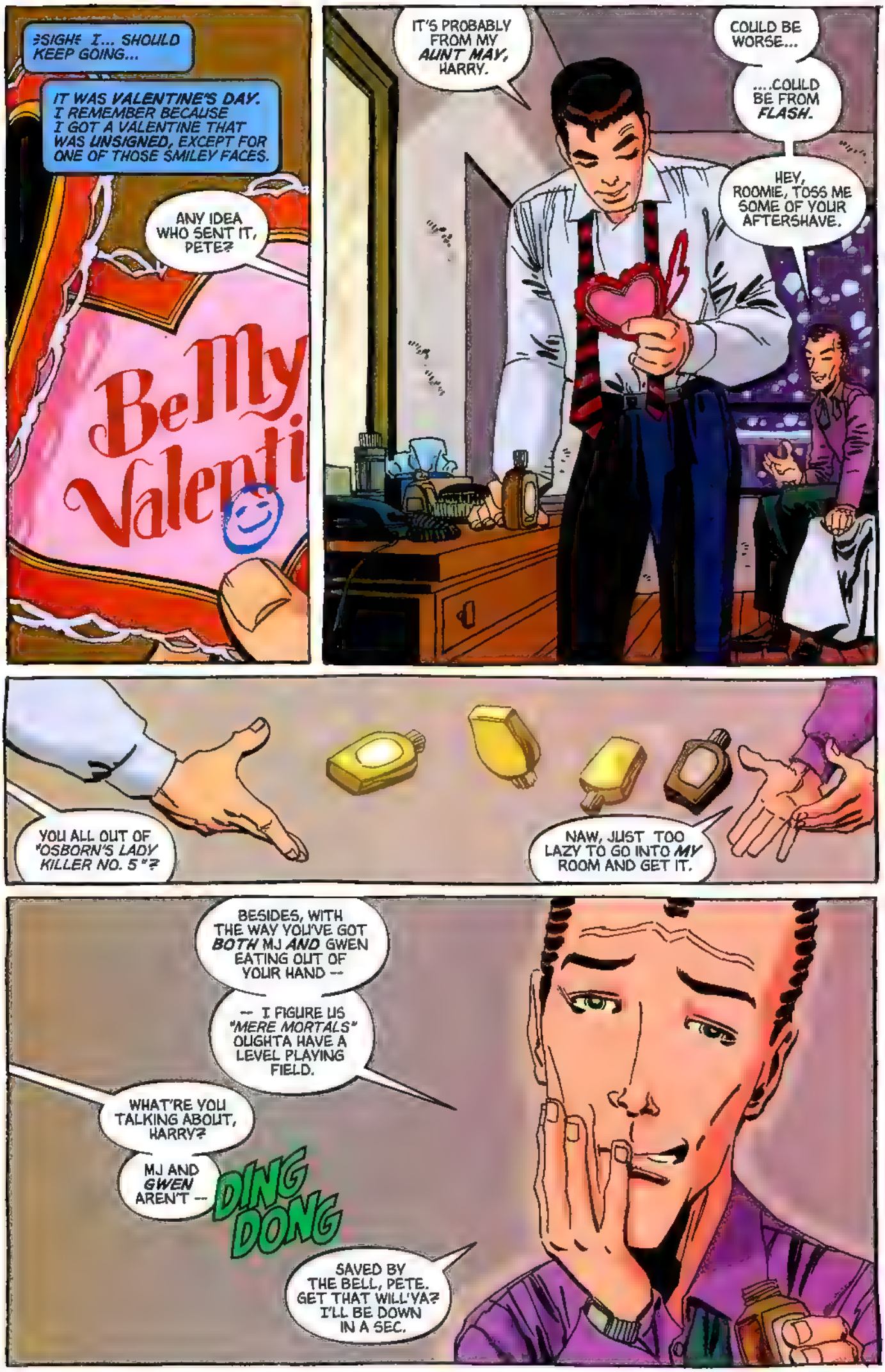
I JOINED THE ARMY.

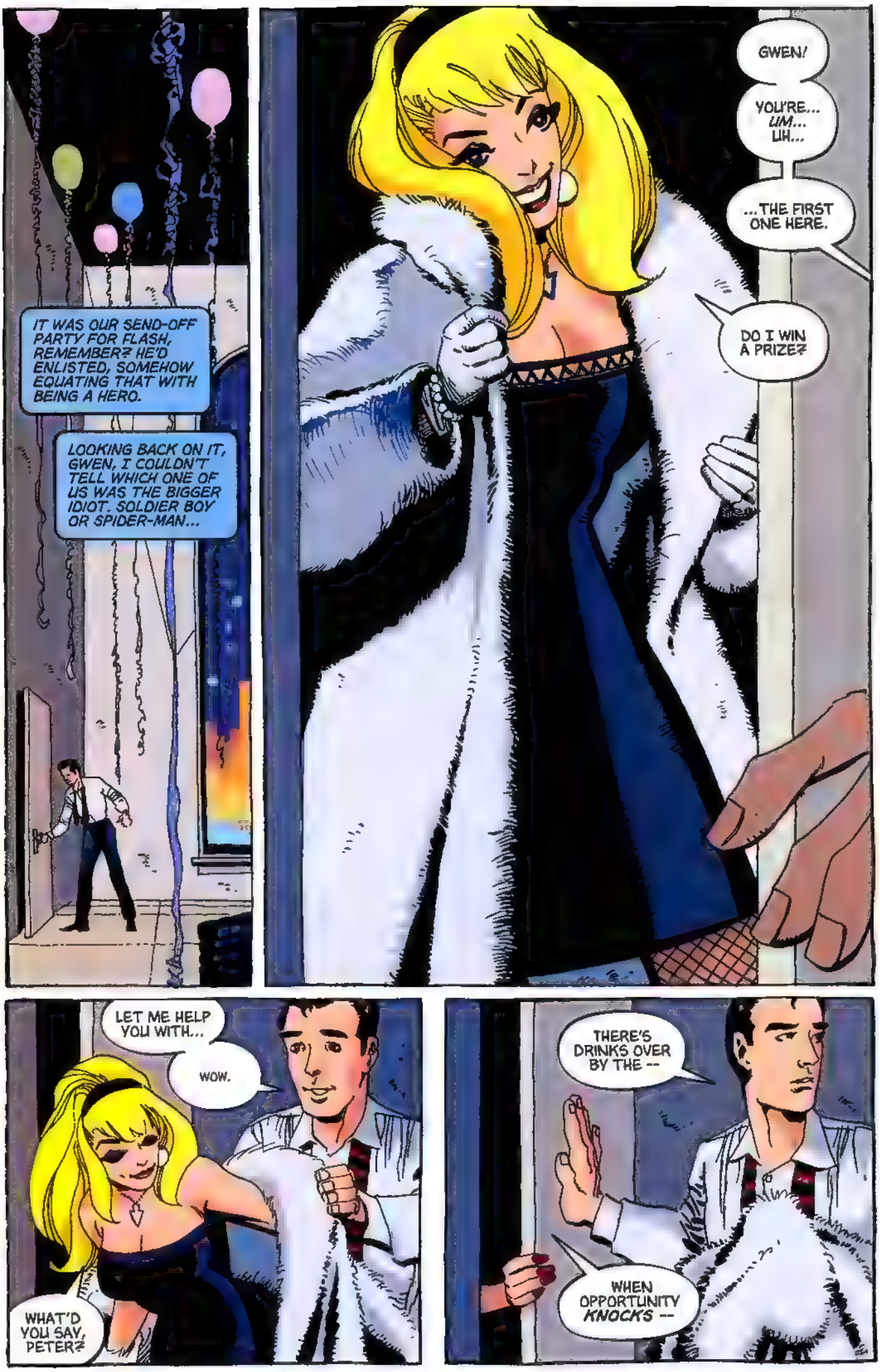
I HAD TO MAKE A DECISION, GWEN.
ONE THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY ANSWER IF I SPENT THE REST OF MY LIFE WITH YOU...
PLK
SNIFF
...OR WITH MJ.
WHAT I DIDN'T KNOW THEN WAS...
...THE DECISION WAS NEVER MINE TO MAKE...
TS 02

BOOK SIX:
all of me
WHRRR
WHRRR
WHRRR HGGNNN... HUH?
...OH, GOD
...UM... GWEN, I'M SORRY, I FELL ASLEEP WITH THE TAPE RECORDER ON... AND, UH...
... I HAD A DREAM ABOUT YOU...
THE SCORPION.
TS 2002

WE WERE RIDING IN A CAR. I DON'T KNOW WHOSE CAR. I WAS DRIVING.
IT WAS A CONVERTIBLE -- MAYBE LIKE THE ONE HARRY USED TO OWN, I DON'T KNOW.
THE WIND WAS IN YOUR HAIR AND...
YOU WERE ALIVE, GWEN.
IT JUST SEEMED SO REAL, I COULD TOUCH YOU...
HEAR YOUR LAUGHTER...
THE OCTOPUS.

AND THE STRANGEST PART...
THE RHINOCEROS.
...THE HARDEST PART...
THE LIZARD.
THE VULTURE.
...WAS THAT IT WAS TODAY. NOT IN THE PAST. YOU WERE STILL ALIVE... TODAY.
DOK
I HAVE STUDIED ALL OF THE BEASTS IN THE CONCRETE JUNGLE AS THEY STALK MY PREY.
LEARNED FROM THEIR MISTAKES.
NOW, THE HUNT BEGINS!
LIFE CAN BE... SO UNFAIR, GWEN.


SIGH... I... SHOULD KEEP GOING...
IT WAS VALENTINE'S DAY. I REMEMBER BECAUSE I GOT A VALENTINE THAT WAS UNSIGNED, EXCEPT FOR ONE OF THOSE SMILEY FACES.
ANY IDEA WHO SENT IT, PETE?
Be My Valenti
IT'S PROBABLY FROM MY AUNT MAY, HARRY.
COULD BE WORSE...
....COULD BE FROM FLASH.
HEY, ROOMIE, TOSS ME SOME OF YOUR AFTERSHAVE.
YOU ALL OUT OF "OSBORN'S LADY KILLER NO. 5"?
NAW, JUST TOO LAZY TO GO INTO MY ROOM AND GET IT.
BESIDES, WITH THE WAY YOU'VE GOT BOTH MJ AND GWEN EATING OUT OF YOUR HAND --
-- I FIGURE US "MERE MORTALS" OUGHTA HAVE A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT, HARRY?
MJ AND GWEN AREN'T --
DING DONG
SAVED BY THE BELL, PETE. GET THAT WILL'YA? I'LL BE DOWN IN A SEC.

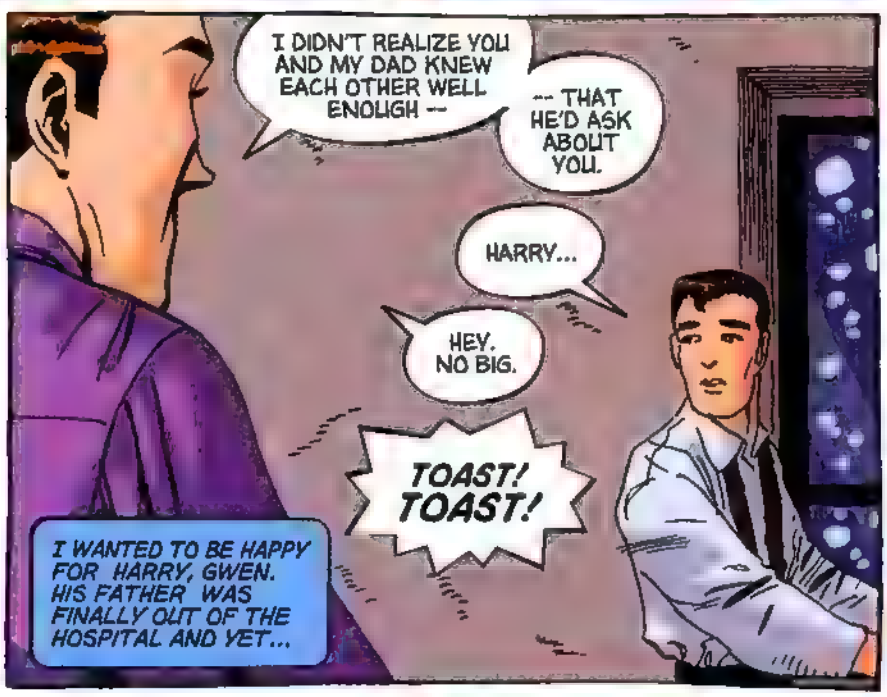

IT WAS OUR SEND-OFF PARTY FOR FLASH, REMEMBER? HE'D ENLISTED, SOMEHOW EQUATING THAT WITH BEING A HERO.
LOOKING BACK ON IT, GWEN, I COULDN'T TELL WHICH ONE OF US WAS THE BIGGER IDIOT. SOLDIER BOY OR SPIDER-MAN...
GWEN!
YOU'RE... UM... UH...
...THE FIRST ONE HERE.
DO I WIN A PRIZE?
LET ME HELP YOU WITH...
WOW.
WHAT'D YOU SAY, PETER?
THERE'S DRINKS OVER BY THE --
WHEN OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS --

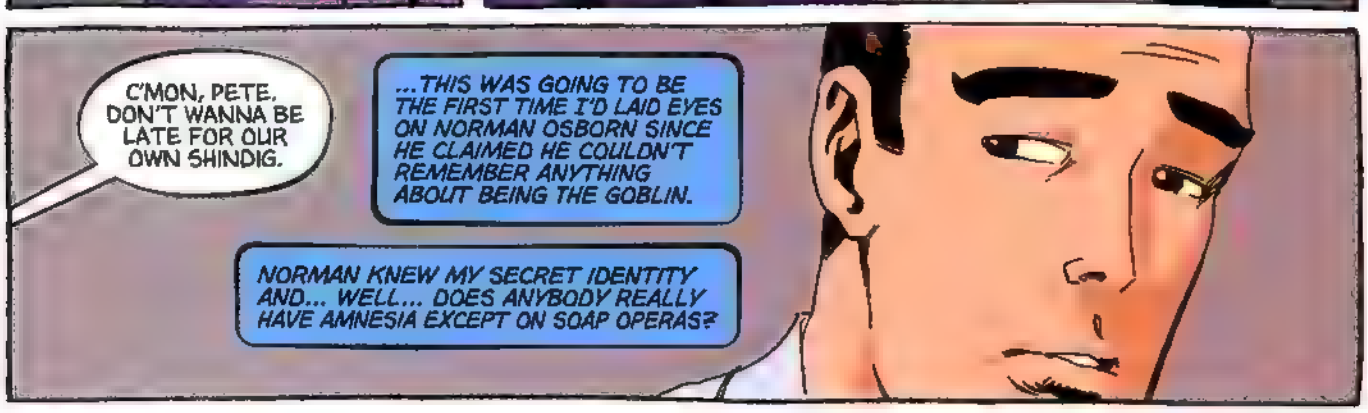
-- YOU OPEN THAT DOOR, TIGER.
MJ, YOU LOOK --
-- FABULOUS, I KNOW. IT'S A GIFT.
SMACK
-- TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, "BASIC" IS PRETTY, WELL, BASIC.
FLASH.
LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED!
BOTTOM LINE. WHETHER IT'S FOOTBALL OR THE ARMY, OL' FLASH WAS BORN TO BE IN A UNIFORM.

NO, SIR.
THAT'LL BE FINE.
GREAT.
SEE YOU THEN.

HARRY..?
EVERYTHING OKAY?
HUH? OH. THAT WAS JUST MY DAD.
JUST THE MENTION OF HARRY'S FATHER -- THE MAN FORMERLY, SECRETLY KNOWN AS THE GREEN GOBLIN -- MADE THE HAIRS ON THE BACK OF MY NECK STAND UP.

HE'S FEELING MUCH BETTER AND THOUGHT HE'D DROP BY.
HE SEEMED PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT YOU WERE HERE.


I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU AND MY DAD KNEW EACH OTHER WELL ENOUGH --
-- THAT HE'D ASK ABOUT YOU.
HARRY...
HEY. NO BIG.
TOAST! TOAST!
I WANTED TO BE HAPPY FOR HARRY, GWEN. HIS FATHER WAS FINALLY OUT OF THE HOSPITAL AND YET...


C'MON, PETE. DON'T WANNA BE LATE FOR OUR OWN SHINDIG.
...THIS WAS GOING TO BE THE FIRST TIME I'D LAID EYES ON NORMAN OSBORN SINCE HE CLAIMED HE COULDN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT BEING THE GOBLIN.
NORMAN KNEW MY SECRET IDENTITY AND... WELL... DOES ANYBODY REALLY HAVE AMNESIA EXCEPT ON SOAP OPERAS?

I...I'M REALLY GONNA MISS ALL YOU GUYS AND GALS.
I GUESS SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO LOSE SOMETHING TO REALLY APPRECIATE YOU EVER HAD IT IN THE FIRST PLACE.
I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT. A PROFOUND THOUGHT FROM FLASH THOMPSON. HE MUST'VE READ IT IN A COMIC BOOK.

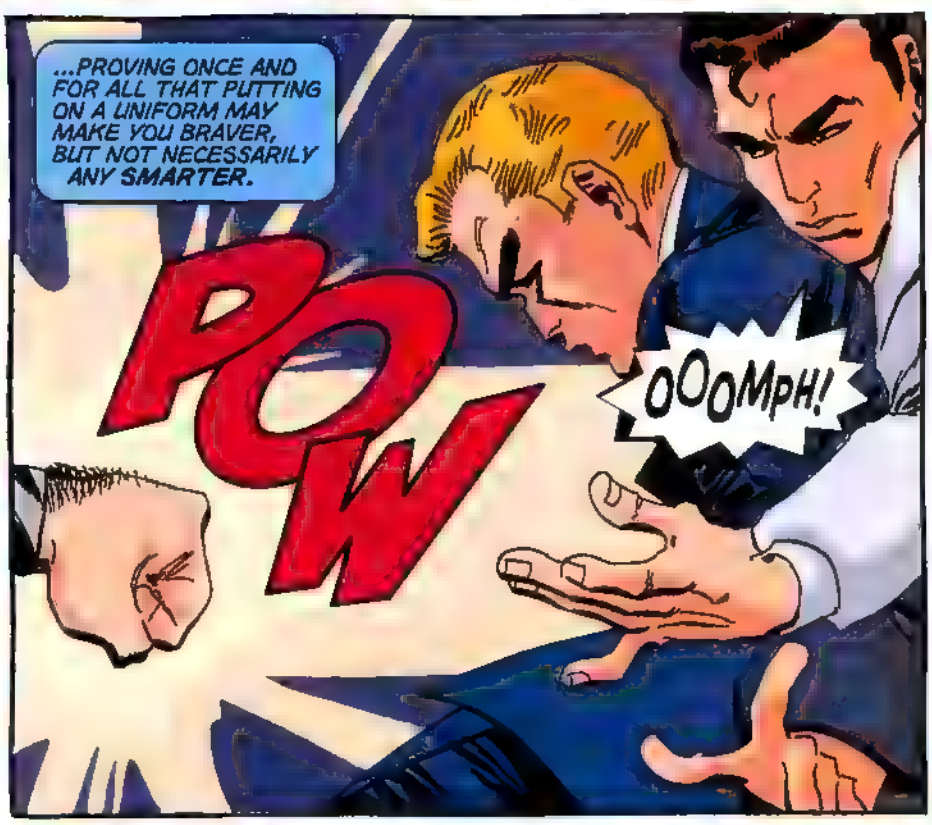
TO FLASH!

I WANTED TO JUST GO IN A CORNER AND TALK TO YOU, BUT GUESS WHOSE SPIDER-SENSE STARTED RAGING?

BELIEVE ME, GWEN, AT THAT MOMENT I WAS JUST AS CONFUSED AS ANYONE THERE.
I MEAN, OF ALL THE PEOPLE TO CRASH FLASH'S GOING AWAY PARTY...
IN THEIR DEN, HE HUNTS THE LION!
...KRAVEN THE HUNTER?!

SNIFF
SORRY, PAL --
HE IS HERE.

-- BUT NOBODY GETS INTO THIS PARTY WITHOUT AN INVITE!
POOR FLASH...


...PROVING ONCE AND FOR ALL THAT PUTTING ON A UNIFORM MAY MAKE YOU BRAVER, BUT NOT NECESSARILY ANY SMARTER.
POW
OOOMPH!

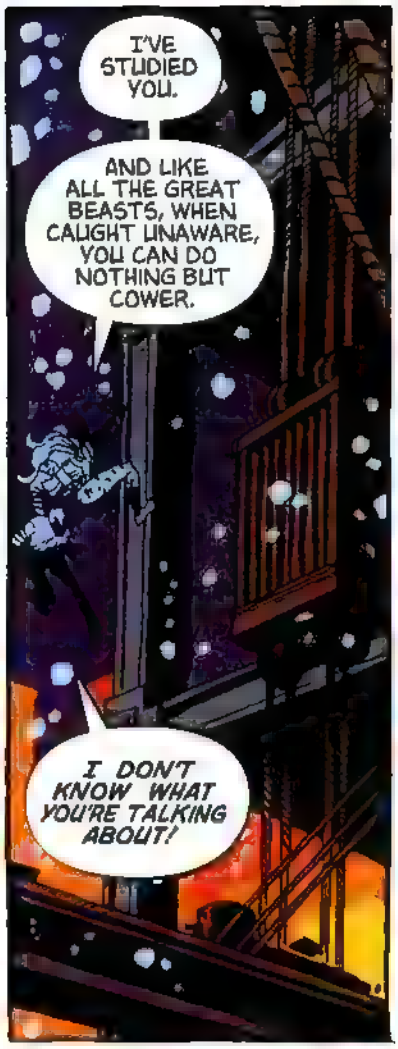
YOU!
ME...?

AND THEN...
...HE TOOK HARRY.
IN A WORLD THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE, THIS REALLY DIDN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.
KRASH

GWEN! CALL 911!
WAIT -- WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

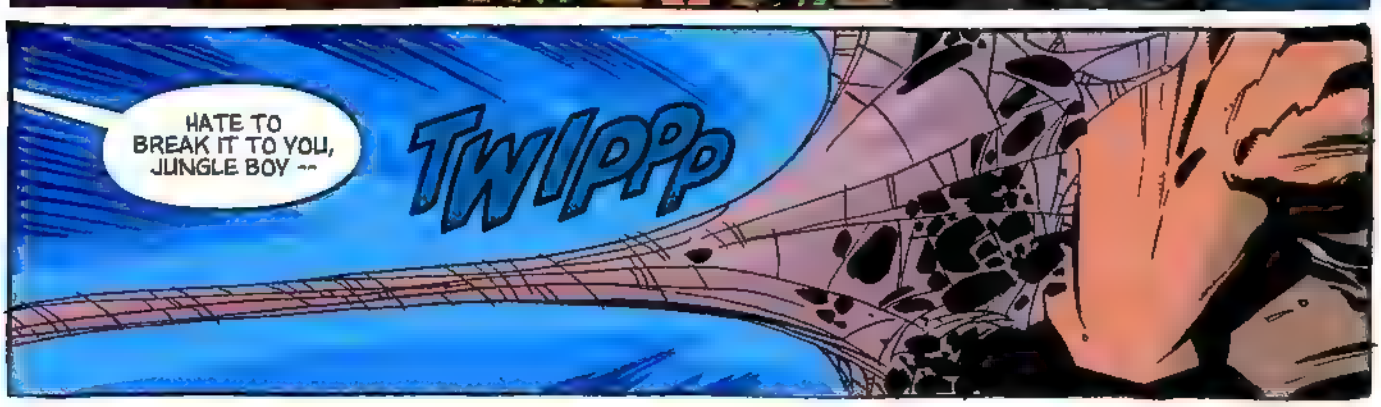
UH.
CAMERA.
BUGLE.
PHOTOS.
SPIDER-MAN.

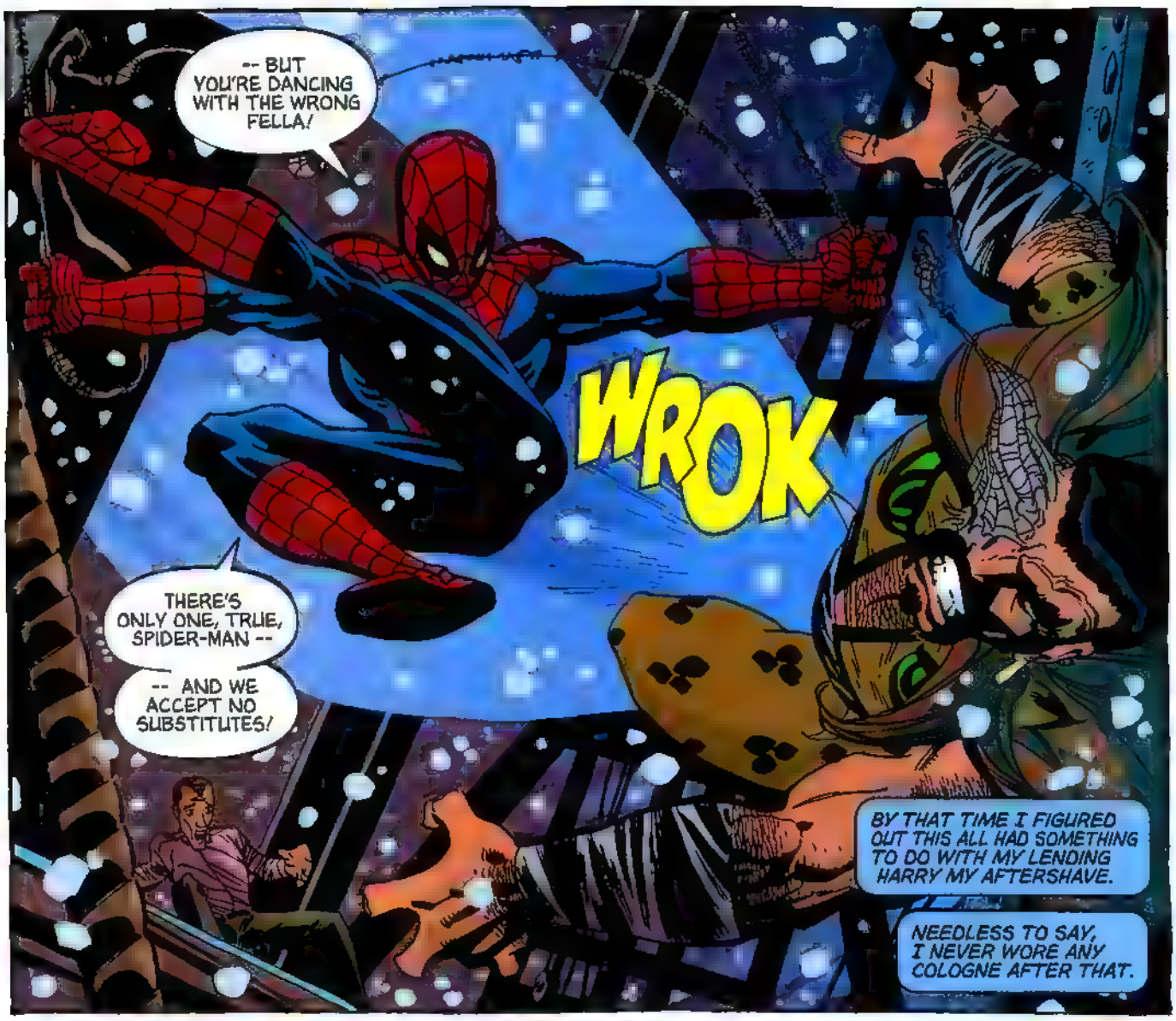
'BYE!
I WISH I COULD ASK YOU NOW...
...DID EITHER OF YOU EVER BUY MY PATHETIC ATTEMPTS AT EXCUSES?


I'VE STUDIED YOU.
AND LIKE ALL THE GREAT BEASTS, WHEN CAUGHT UNAWARE, YOU CAN DO NOTHING BUT COWER.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!

I ALMOST WISH YOU WOULD FIGHT ME --
-- TO MAKE THE KILL MORE WORTHWHILE.
I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU!
PLEASE --

-- YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG GUY!
IT IS POINTLESS TO DENY IT -- I HAVE YOUR SCENT!


HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, JUNGLE BOY --
TWIPPP


-- BUT YOU'RE DANCING WITH THE WRONG FELLA!
WROK
THERE'S ONLY ONE, TRUE, SPIDER-MAN --
-- AND WE ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES!
BY THAT TIME I FIGURED OUT THIS ALL HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH MY LENDING HARRY MY AFTERSHAVE.
NEEDLESS TO SAY, I NEVER WORE ANY COLOGNE AFTER THAT.

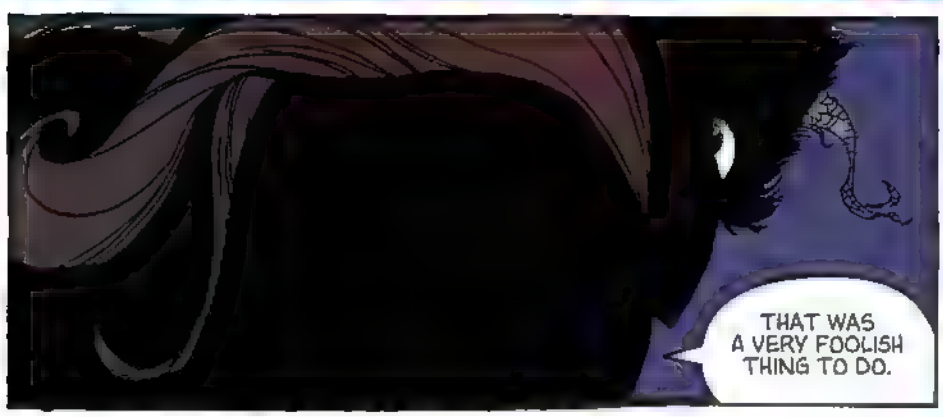
EASY THERE. I'LL GET YOU HOME, JUST AS SOON AS --
L-LOOK OUT -- !
HARRY WAS SO SHAKEN BY IT ALL, HE NEVER BROUGHT IT UP. AND KRAVEN, I GUESS, WOULDN'T LET HIS EGO ADMIT THAT HE'D MADE A MISTAKE, SO HE NEVER TRIED THIS STUNT AGAIN.

THUNK
GUNGN!

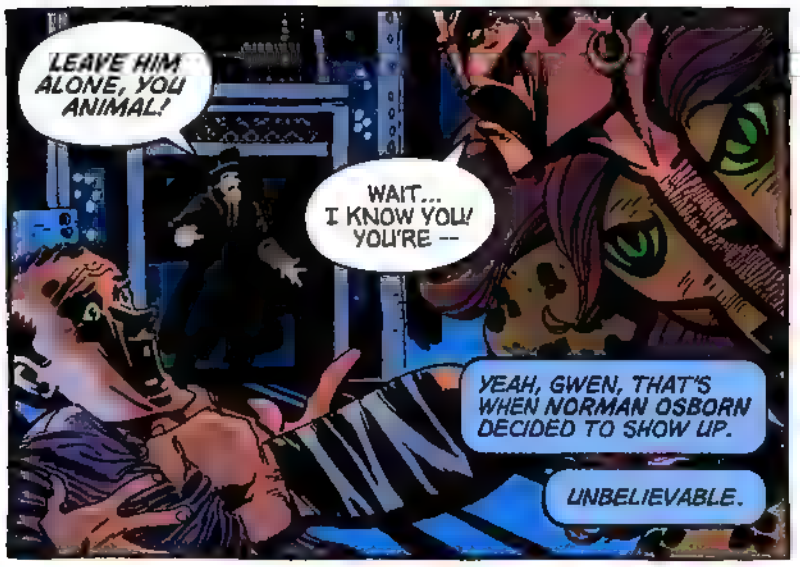
YOU COULD NOT HAVE KNOWN I WAS HUNTING YOU.
WRAM

AND YET... YOU HAD A DECOY!
BRAK

KLUNK!
JERK!


THAT WAS A VERY FOOLISH THING TO DO.

HARRY!


LEAVE HIM ALONE, YOU ANIMAL!
WAIT... I KNOW YOU! YOU'RE --
YEAH, GWEN, THAT'S WHEN NORMAN OSBORN DECIDED TO SHOW UP.
UNBELIEVABLE.

HEY, HYENA BREATH --
-- I WANT TO KNOW WHY.
BAM

WHY'D YOU GO THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE JUST TO KILL LITTLE OL' ME?!
BDFF
OKAY, MAYBE HITTING HIM WITH EVERYTHING I HAD WASN'T THE MOST ROMANTIC THING I COULD THINK OF FOR VALENTINE'S DAY.
BUT, DAMMIT, GWEN, I DIDN'T WANT TO BE THERE SLUGGING IT OUT WITH SOME TARZAN WANNABE. I SHOULD'VE BEEN WITH YOU.
HOW MANY DATES -- HOW MANY KISSES DID I MISS BECAUSE I WAS DOING THIS INSTEAD OF BEING BY YOUR SIDE?

IT... WAS A CONTRACT...
GREEN GOBLIN... PAID ME TO KILL YOU...
THE GOBLIN? KRAVEN, THE GREEN GOBLIN IS DEAD!
...DID...DIDN'T MATTER... HONOR... HONOR THE CONTRACT...

EVEN BACK THEN, HOW MANY LIVES DID THE GREEN GOBLIN DESTROY..?

SPIDER-MAN.
SPIDER-MAN!
I JUST WANTED TO THANK YOU.
YOU SAVED MY SON, AND, AND IF YOU EVER NEED ANYTHING --
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING FROM YOU.
I'M JUST GLAD IT'S OVER.

YOU... YOU SAVED MY SON... AND... YOU SAVED...
DAD..? DAD, YOU OKAY?

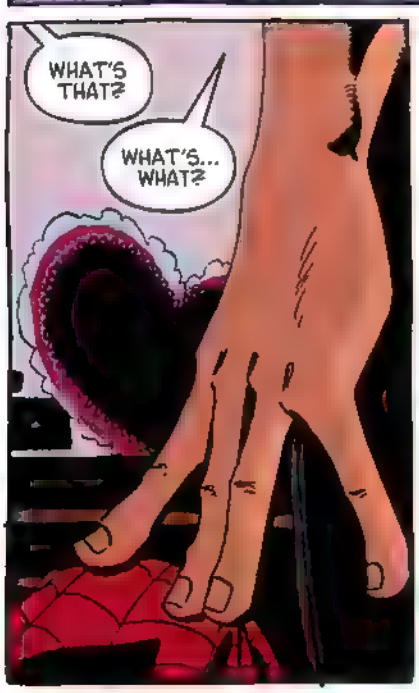
IT'S... NOTHING... NOTHING.
NO. IT'S ALL THE EXCITEMENT SO SOON AFTER...
LET'S GET YOU HOME.
WE'LL JUST SAY GOOD-BYE TO --

SO THAT WAS IT. I FOUND OUT LATER THAT EVERYTHING I'D BEEN THROUGH -- THE RHINO, THE LIZARD, THE VULTURES -- ALL THOSE ANIMALS -- WERE ALL PART OF SOME TEST KRAVEN HAD ARRANGED.
-- SPIDER-MAN...?
I LOOK BACK ON MY LIFE AS SPIDER-MAN, AND GOD HELP ME, THERE ARE DAYS WHEN ALL I CAN THINK OF IS HOW MUCH TIME IT'S TAKEN AWAY FROM MY FAMILY...
...AND FROM EVERYONE I'VE LOVED.

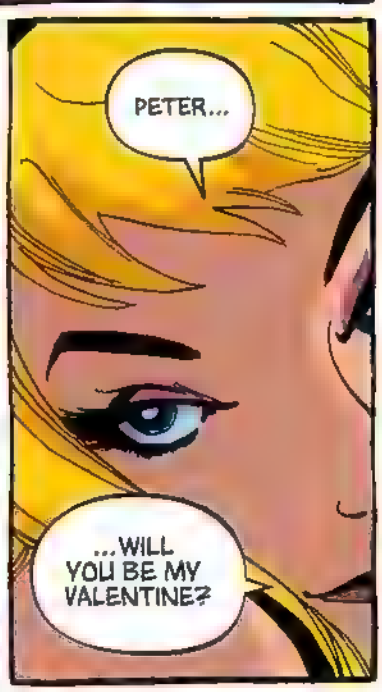
PETER...?
EVERYONE'S GONE HOME AND I THOUGHT I HEARD --
-- YEAH, IT'S ME, GWEN. I...JUST GIVE ME A SECOND.
IT'S LIKE I'VE BEEN RIDING AN ELEVATOR THAT STOPS ON ALL THE WRONG FLOORS.
...BUT, SOMEHOW, THAT NIGHT, THE DOORS OPENED... AND...

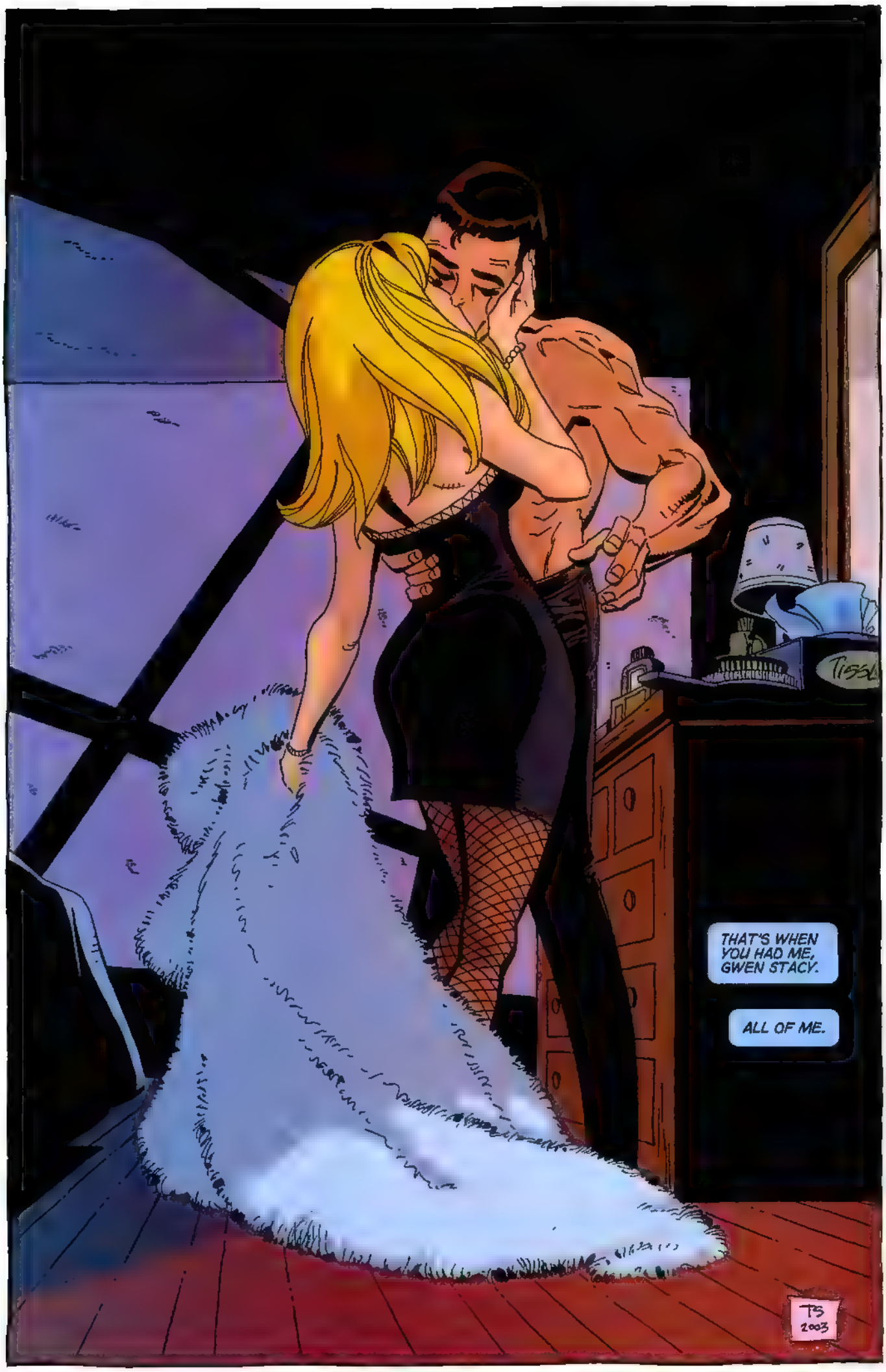
OH.

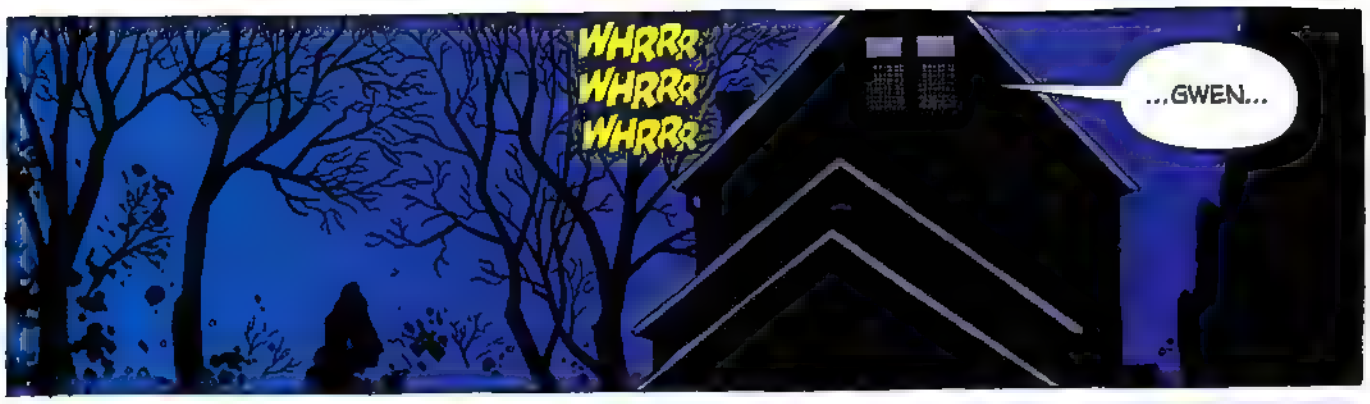
I...DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE GETTING DRESSED --
-- UNDRESSED, ACTUALLY -- SORRY, GWEN, I THOUGHT EVERYONE'D LEFT, TOO, AND I WAS JUST GETTING READY FOR BED AND --
-- SOME NIGHT, HUH?
I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT THAT. HOW EVERYBODY RAN -- EXCEPT YOU. YOU WENT FOR YOUR CAMERA AND JUMPED AT THE CHANCE.
LIKE A FIREMAN RUSHING INTO A BURNING BUILDING WHEN EVERYBODY ELSE IS RUNNING OUT.
AND...I GOT TO WONDERING...MAYBE THAT'S SOMEBODY I SHOULD GET TO KNOW BETTER.
UH...?


WHAT'S THAT?
WHAT'S... WHAT?

BET YOU GET A LOT OF THESE.
DID YOU READ IT?
YOU DON'T WANT TO TAKE THAT BET.
UM... YES.
AND...?
AND...?


PETER...
...WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?

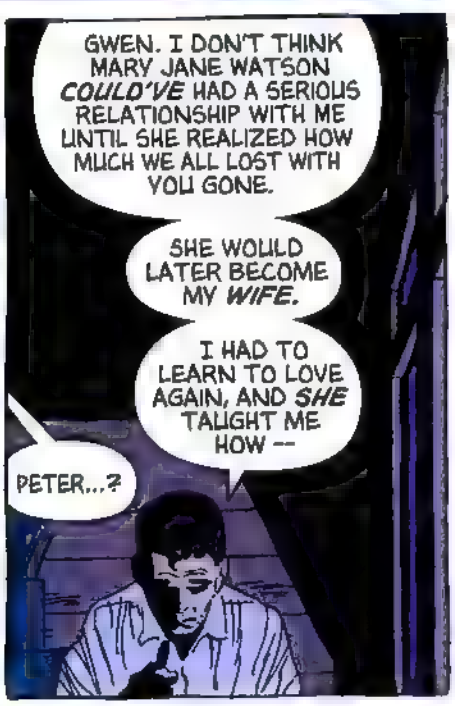

THAT'S WHEN YOU HAD ME, GWEN STACY.
ALL OF ME.
TS 2003


WHRRR
WHRRR
WHRRR
...GWEN...

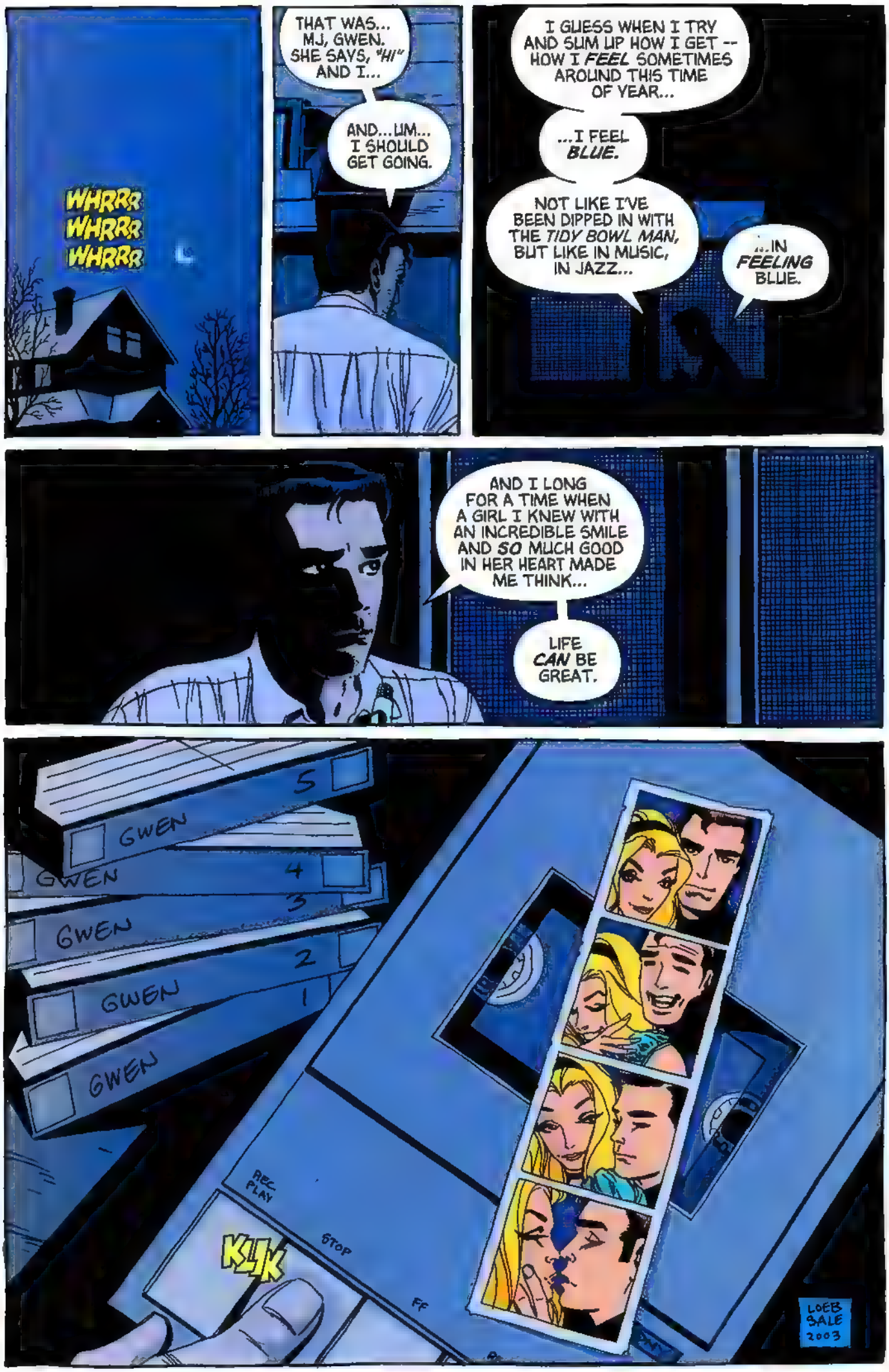
FOR *YEARS* I'VE TRIED TO MAKE SOME SENSE OF YOUR DEATH.
SOMETHING -- *ANYTHING* -- THAT I COULD CALL "GOOD" THAT CAME AFTER ALL THAT...
...BAD...

AND ALL THE TIME I'VE BEEN SITTING UP HERE TALKING TO YOU, I REMEMBERED SOMETHING I DON'T THINK I'VE TOLD *ANYONE.*
THE NIGHT OF YOUR *FUNERAL.*
MJ CAME TO SEE ME AT THE APARTMENT. I WAS...PUTTING IT MILDLY... *RUDE* TO HER.

I JUST WASN'T UP FOR THAT *"LIFE IS A PARTY AND MJ IS THE CAKE"* THING.
BUT, *SOMETHING* HAPPENED THAT NIGHT. I THINK NOW YOUR DEATH WAS MJ'S WAKE-UP CALL --
-- THAT WE *WEREN'T* ALL GOING TO LIVE FOREVER AND THE PARTY *WAS* GOING TO END.


GWEN. I DON'T THINK MARY JANE WATSON *COULD'VE* HAD A SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP WITH ME UNTIL SHE REALIZED HOW MUCH WE ALL LOST WITH YOU GONE.
SHE WOULD LATER BECOME MY *WIFE.*
I HAD TO LEARN TO LOVE AGAIN, AND *SHE* TAUGHT ME HOW --
PETER...?

HI.
MJ...?
HOW... HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING...?
LONG ENOUGH.
I... I'M SORRY, MJ. I DIDN'T MEAN FOR YOU TO HEAR...
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I JUST CAME UP TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE OKAY.
YEAH.
I'M OKAY...
WILL YOU DO ME A FAVOR, PETER?
SAY "HELLO" FOR ME AND --
-- TELL GWEN I MISS HER, TOO...


WHRRR
WHRRR
WHRRR
THAT WAS... MJ, GWEN. SHE SAYS, "HI" AND I...
AND...UM... I SHOULD GET GOING.
I GUESS WHEN I TRY AND SUM UP HOW I GET -- HOW I FEEL SOMETIMES AROUND THIS TIME OF YEAR...
...I FEEL BLUE.
NOT LIKE I'VE BEEN DIPPED IN WITH THE TIDY BOWL MAN, BUT LIKE IN MUSIC, IN JAZZ...
...IN FEELING BLUE.
AND I LONG FOR A TIME WHEN A GIRL I KNEW WITH AN INCREDIBLE SMILE AND SO MUCH GOOD IN HER HEART MADE ME THINK...
LIFE CAN BE GREAT.
GWEN 5
GWEN 4
GWEN 3
GWEN 2
GWEN 1
GWEN
REC
PLAY
STOP
FF
KLIK
LOEB SALE 2003

BOOK ONE

my funny valentine

BOOK TWO

let's fall in love

BOOK THREE

anything goes

BOOK FOUR

autumn in new york

BOOK FIVE

if i had you

BOOK SIX

all of me

"It's about remembering someone so important to me I was going to spend the rest of my life with her."

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